southern VOICE

Black like us
New dramas attempt to fill TV's dearth of gay characters of color.

Page 43

WWW.SOVO.COM ALL THE NEWS FOR YOUR **LIFE**. AND YOUR **STYLE**. JUNE 18, 2004

Hotlanta River Expo bids farewell

Annual circuit party sinks under rising debt

Story, Page 3

MIXED EMOTIONS: Democratic Senate hopefuls fall short of gay marriage support. **Page 4**

VIOLENT ACTS: U.S. Senate again OKs gay-inclusive hate crimes bill. **Page 11**

eclipse

- Gay bars getting new look, **Page 45**
- What to do this week, **Page 47**
- **George Michael** shows 'Patience,' **Page 57**
- Presidential hopes dashed, **Page 61**

The Sixteenth Annual

pride eucharist

for human rights

Join us as we celebrate God's love

the rev'd elizabeth keaton

Rector, The Episcopal Church of St. Paul, Chatham, NJ, Presiding

all saints' episcopal church

634 West Peachtree Street - Opposite the North Avenue MARTA Station

thursday, june 24 – 7:30 p.m.

Really Does

The Episcopal Church Welcome You

Worship All Year Long with a Welcoming Congregation Near You

The 98 Congregations of the Diocese of Atlanta represent the Anglican Communion in northern Georgia.

The Annual Pride Eucharist is sponsored by Integrity/Atlanta with thanksgiving for our LGBT brothers and sisters of every faith.

atlanta news

Hotlanta River Expo sinks in debt

Circuit event goes under after 25 years of partying

By RYAN LEE

Father Time — and insurmountable debt — caught up with what has been called the nation's oldest circuit party.

The Hotlanta River Expo, which began on the waters of the Chattahoochee River in 1978 and grew into one of the southeast's most popular annual events for gay men, ended after a wash-out in 2003 and nearly a decade of operating in the red, according to Bryan Craft, HRE president.

"The organization will not be holding an event this year," Craft said this week. "Financially there is just too much to get done, too little money."

Last year's event "didn't generate the revenue we would hope, but 2003 was not the sole source of the problem," Craft said. "There were debts going back a number of years."

Craft would not comment on how much money Hotlanta owed its creditors, nor would he provide a list of creditors.

Last year, Hotlanta released a statement that said the vast majority of creditors are individuals who fronted HRE money, and the company estimated that its debt was $90,000 and growing.

Hotlanta River Expo is registered as a not-for-profit corporation in Georgia, not a 501c3 non-profit, meaning it is not required to submit any budgetary disclosure reports, according to Jackie Slate, a spokesperson in the Secretary of State's office.

In addition to being unable to turn a profit in recent years, Hotlanta also fell victim to alleged embezzlement scams by two of its chief financial officers, in which at least $47,500 was stolen in 2000 and 2001.

Whether Hotlanta will resurface depends on whether creditors wish to hold an event under the HRE trademark in an attempt to recoup their investments, said Craft, who added that he has heard of no such plans.

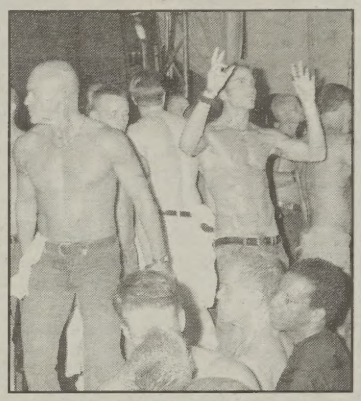
"Right now, the creditors are in the driver's seat, not us," Craft said. "If creditors want to hold an event to make money, that's up to them."

Tony Hayden, a writer for thecircuitdog.com — a Web site devoted to circuit party news and chatting — called Hotlanta and the early August vacancy created by its departure "damaged goods," not likely to be replaced by a similar event.

"It doesn't mean that another type of weekend [won't] evolve [in Atlanta]," Hayden said. "Somewhere there already is a unique spark in the city that is ready to ignite. Embracing the culture and uniqueness of Atlanta will bring the weekend destination events back to life."

Steady flow of problems

In its twilight years, Hotlanta River Expo had trouble living up to its mission and its name.



Awash in unpaid debt, the Hotlanta River Expo — often called the nation's oldest circuit party — has been cancelled after more than two decades as one of Atlanta's signature summer events. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

The event started in 1978 when about 300 gay men rafted down the Chattahoochee River, a tradition that continued as party after party was added to transform HRE into a massive four-day celebration, complete with Mr. and Miss Hotlanta pageants.

southern voice COVER STORY

Mark Baker, a circuit party producer, credited HRE with laying the foundation for blockbuster circuit events like Gay Days at Disney, which Baker recently helped produce in Orlando with Jeffrey Sanker.

"I think what Hotlanta did was they had the whole uniqueness of having the river-raft experience and they built the weekend around it," Baker said. "There was something more to the weekend than the party."

But in 2002, HRE officials cancelled the rafting segment of the weekend after the company from which HRE rented rafts went out of business and concerns were raised about pollution in the river.

The "grandfather of all circuit events" was irreparably damaged after eliminating the rafting, which fostered bonding among party-goers, Hayden said.

"The rafting was one of the most important key elements of the camaraderie of the weekend," Hayden said. "It was cold and dirty, but it was the fabric that made Hotlanta different. Eventually [HRE] fell under the cookie-cutter spell and tried to be like every and anyone else."

Baker agreed that the move helped HRE lose its magic and appeal.

"I think that was something they couldn't recover from," he said.

Like other circuit events, HRE touted its parties as a way to raise money for AIDS organizations. Prior to the event last year, HRE claimed contributions of more than $120,000 to local charities in its 25-year history.

But the sole beneficiary from last year's event — Pets Are Loving Support, a non-profit dedicated to helping terminally ill people keep their pets — didn't receive any contributions from HRE, said Ken Rich, executive director of PALS.

"They didn't have any money to make a donation," Rich said. "I think 'surprised' best describes [our reaction]."

Last year continued a string of disappointing financial performances for HRE in which organizers spent more money than the weekend generated, meaning the event often had little, if any, to donate to its designated charities.

"Beyond the mismanagement of Hotlanta today, this problem dates back 10 years — Hotlanta started considering themselves a success if they just broke even," Hayden said.

Competing events drain attendance

The biggest factor in HRE's inability to bring in adequate dollars was a drop-off in paid attendance at its events, Craft said.

But there are many theories about what contributed to the decline in attendees.

"Unfortunately, through the years Hotlanta was a victim of its own success and everyone wanted to be part of the bandwagon," Craft said. "Nobody wanted to pay to get in, but you can't hold an event that costs thousands of thousands of dollars and have everyone go in for free. Somebody's got to pay to get in."

Baker, with the Gay Days event, said such a dilemma is common on the circuit scene.

"Complimentary tickets is an issue you always have to deal with, and you've got to stay on top of it or else it's going to get out of hand," Baker said. "At the end of the day you've got to pay the bills."

But Hayden contends that people never stopped spending their money to get into Hotlanta parties, they simply stopped supporting the events.

"Poorly planned events [by HRE] let outside promoters come in and confuse and embezzle their audience," Hayden said. "Promoters started throwing rival, superior events that continually took funds out of the pocket of Hotlanta [and] that sucks."

Many people stopped buying a weekend package for Hotlanta events because once they arrived in Atlanta, they would "have to purchase another $150 worth of party tickets because HRE was not the hot ticket in town," Hayden said.

Rick Mitchell, an Atlanta DJ who used to spin at Hotlanta parties, said he is disturbed by how gay party-goers abandoned the circuit event but continued to enjoy the revelry that it helped create.

"For a variety of reasons, a lot of locals loved to hate Hotlanta, yet when the event came around each year those same people would be right in the middle enjoying the out-of-town company," Mitchell said.

Mitchell, Hayden and Baker all said the demise of Hotlanta represents a larger phenomenon within the circuit scene — with those who are looking to party finding a historic number of options, and pro-

Please see HOTLANTA on Page 8

inside

VOLUME 17, NUMBER 19

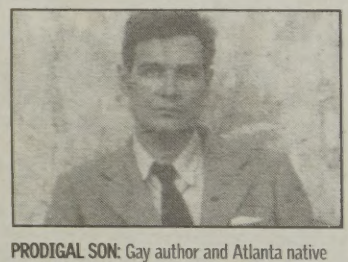
LOCAL NEWS	3
NATIONAL NEWS	10
LOCAL LIFE	25
FORUM	32
ECLIPSE	43
HOME	65
CLASSIFIEDS	74
PERSONALS	78

calendars

NOTES	25
SPIRITUALITY	26
COMMUNITY	28
HEALTH	31
APPOINTMENTS	46
NIGHTLIFE	47

PEARLS OF PRIDE: Pearl Day, an annual fundraiser at Six Flags, is one of several events next week leading up to the Atlanta Pride festival. **Local Life, Page 25**

GAY UPGRADES: Owners of three Midtown gay bars announce renovations that will make the popular nightspots look like a million bucks. **Nightlife, Page 45**



PRODIGAL SON: Gay author and Atlanta native **Donald Windham** returns to his hometown for a reading from the re-release of his 1950 novel next week. **Books, Page 55**

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Southern Voice, 1075 Zonolite Road, Suite 1-D, Atlanta, GA 30306. Southern Voice is published weekly, on Friday, by Window Media LLC. Subscriptions are $80/year for 52 issues (only $1.54 per issue).

atlanta news

Senate candidates disagree on marriage

Two top Democrats support equal rights, but not 'marriage'

By RYAN LEE

Cliff Oxford, one of the leading Democrats for the U.S. Senate seat from Georgia, said he stands with gay and lesbian residents in their fight for equality and non-discrimination, but disagrees with many on the most prominent gay rights issue of the day — marriage.

"I know that this is a position that may hurt me in the gay and lesbian community, but I have to be honest," Oxford told Southern Voice in an e-mail interview June 16. "I believe the institution of marriage should be reserved for a man and a woman, and I would vote accordingly."

But if he becomes a senator, Oxford said he is unsure how he would vote on the Federal Marriage Amendment — a measure now pending in both chambers of Congress that would change the Constitution to define marriage as between one man and one woman.

"I would not vote for legislation that limits the civil rights of anyone," Oxford said.

Oxford's press secretary, Kevin Griffis, clarified the candidate's position by saying that Oxford opposes gay marriage, but would not support any initiative that would also prohibit states from establishing marriage-like alternatives such as civil unions or domestic partnerships.

"I believe civil unions with civil rights for gay and lesbian couples would be appropriate," Oxford said.

Varying views

Oxford's position on gay marriage puts him on the same page as one of his top two opponents in the July 20 Democratic primary to replace Sen. Zell Miller (D-Ga.), who is retiring.

Shortly after the Federal Marriage Amendment was introduced last year, U.S. Rep. Denise Majette (D-Ga.) told Southern Voice that she opposed the constitutional ban on gay marriage, but stopped short of supporting full marriage equality for same-sex couples.

"My goal is to make sure people who are in committed same-sex relationships receive the same benefits as married couples," Majette said in July 2003. "I believe that if we try to achieve that goal by calling those relationships marriages, our efforts will not be successful.

"I fully support the principle that committed same-sex couples should have the same benefits as married heterosexual couples," Majette said. "People should not be discriminated against on the basis of whom they love."

Majette did not respond to repeated interview requests by press time.

Meanwhile, state Sen. Mary Squires (D-Norcross), the third candidate considered to have a fighting chance to win the Democratic nomination in the July 20 primary election, expanded her support for same-sex couples, saying they deserve access to civil marriage.

Squires was one of the most vocal opponents of a proposed constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage in

Please see STATE DEMS on Page 6

Fulton clerk's race includes gay candidate

By CHRISTOPHER SEELY

While top-ticket races like U.S. Senate draw the most attention in the July 20 Democratic primary, gay candidates battle to make inroads in smaller seats.

Lewis Pittman, who is gay, seeks to unseat Juanita Hicks, the incumbent Fulton County Clerk of Superior Court who has been in office since 1988.

The winner of the Democratic primary will face the lone Republican in the race, S. Angelic Moore, on the November general election ballot.

"After 16 years of leadership, Juanita has gotten complacent," Pittman said. "Many of the same problems she talked about in 1988 when she ran are the same things she is still going through now. She hasn't got the problems solved."

Pittman, currently on leave from his job as case manager for Fulton Superior Court Judge Joel Fryer, said he bases his calls for change on his 11 years of court experience, including serving as deputy clerk of Fulton County Superior Court from 1998 to 2000.

But Pittman is just repeating criticisms leveled at Hicks by her previous challengers, Hicks said.

"It's the perfect thing for people new to the office to say," she said.

Elected to a four-year term, the clerk of Fulton County Superior Court is responsible for recording and maintaining documents filed in the Fulton court, including civil and criminal records, property sales, property liens, professional licenses, charters and other legal documents. The clerk is also responsible for collection of real estate transfer taxes.

The democratic primary race for Fulton County Superior Court Clerk is between incumbent **Juanita Hicks** and challenger **Lewis Pittman**, who is gay. (Pittman photo by R.O. Youngblood)

Hicks acknowledged that the clerk's office has problems that need to be addressed, but said the challenges are par for the course in an evolving computer age and are best met by someone with her experience.

"We constantly have to change to meet the times," she said. "We are constantly working to make it more efficient."

Among the pressing technological advances are an e-filing project and major Web site renovation, Hicks said.

"We do have problems and delays and are doing more training," she said.

But Pittman claimed Hicks has not been "a fulltime clerk." It takes six months to get a property deed from the clerk's office and people are being held in jail because of paperwork delays, he said.

In counties of comparable size, such as Gwinnett, Cobb and DeKalb, the waiting time for a deed is two weeks or less, Pittman said.

"It is costing the taxpayers money when you have information that is not put together properly," he said.

Christopher Seely can be reached at cseely@sovo.com.

southern VOICE

1075 Zonolite Road, Suite 1-D
Atlanta, Georgia 30306
404-876-1819 (phone)
404-876-2709 (fax)
www.sovo.com, editor@sovo.com

*Named the country's best gay weekly**
1997, 1998, 1999
**Vice Versa Awards for Excellence in the Gay & Lesbian Media*

A Window Media Publication

PUBLISHER Window Media LLC

PRESIDENT William Waybourn

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR Chris Crain

ART DIRECTOR Rob Boeger

OPERATIONS MANAGER Mike Kitchens

SALES DIRECTOR Steve Guerrini

WINDOW MEDIA CFO Pam Ayres

MARKETING MANAGER Ron Romanski

All material in Southern Voice is protected by federal copyright law and may not be reproduced without the written consent of Southern Voice. The sexual orientation of advertisers, photographers, writers and cartoonists published herein is neither inferred or implied.
The appearance of names or pictorial representation does not necessarily indicate the sexual orientation of that person or persons.

Southern Voice accepts unsolicited editorial material but cannot take responsibility for its return. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any submission. All rights revert to authors upon publication. Guidelines for freelance contributors are available upon request.

The editorial positions of Southern Voice are expressed in editorials and in the editor's notes as determined by the editor. Other opinions are those of writers and do not necessarily represent the opinions of Southern Voice or its staff.

To submit a letter:
Letters should be fewer than 400 words and may be edited for content and length. All submissions must include a name and phone number for verification.

National Gay Newspaper Guild MEMBER

VERIFIED AUDIT CIRCULATION www.verifiedaudit.com

Associated Press

Mr. Gay.com 2004
Do you have what it takes?
Enter to win $25,000!
GAY.COM

atlanta news

Senate hopefuls support ban on job bias

STATE DEMS, continued from Page 4

Georgia when it was being debated by the state Senate in February. But at the time she too stopped short of endorsing full marriage equality for gays — saying using the term "marriage" might lead to religious discord.

But in an interview June 14, Squires said the way to solve that problem is to "have a true separation of church and state in the United States."

"We have merged religious marriage with civil marriage in this country, and that's why we have a problem right now with folks talking about gay marriage," said Squires, who added that all couples — gay and straight — should have access to civil marriage while leaving religious ceremonies to churches.

Squires' outspokenness during Senate debate on the state gay marriage ban — which eventually passed both houses of the General Assembly and will appear on the November ballot — earned her the endorsement of state Rep. Karla Drenner (D-Avondale Estates), Georgia's only openly gay state legislator.

"I'm very proud of her and I thought it was very gutsy for her to stand up for us — she stood very firmly and passionately against the amendment," Drenner said of Squires.

Many political observers accused the state GOP of introducing the anti-gay marriage amendment as a way to turnout large numbers of conservative voters in the November election.

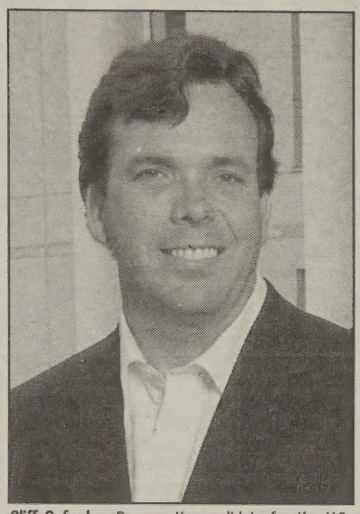
Squires said she will not be fazed by any backlash her campaign may receive as a result of her outspoken opposition to the ban.

"I don't take that kind of stand [against the amendment] lightly," Squires said. "I meant it and I will continue to stick to my guns and fight against it — it's simply wrong."

Squires' steadfastness in her position is exactly the strategy the Democratic candidate needs to compete against whoever wins the Republican primary, where the leading contenders strongly support the gay marriage ban, according to Beth Schapiro, a gay Democratic pollster.

"[Opposing the amendment] shouldn't be a liability for the Democratic candidate if it's presented properly," said Schapiro, founder of the Schapiro Research Group in Atlanta. "The Republican Party is attempting to build its strength in Georgia on the back of gay folks, and the Democrats need the backbone to not run from their position.

"They need to defend their position and call the Republicans on what they are doing," Schapiro said.



Cliff Oxford, a Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate from Georgia, said marriage should be reserved for a man and a woman.

Workplace bias opposed

Oxford and Squires will both campaign at Gay Pride later this month, but there is no word if Majette will attend.

"We are reaching out to gay and lesbian voters and leaders in the community, just as we are reaching out to other communities," said Oxford, whose campaign focuses on job creation, health care and education.

"I will be attending the Gay Pride parade, and my campaign will have a visible presence at the day's events," he added.

Oxford said he had a strong record of promoting gay people when he started his career with United Parcel Service, a trait he carried with him when he founded his own company, STI Knowledge, in Atlanta.

If elected, Oxford said he would support the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, a measure that would add sexual orientation to the list of categories protected from workplace bias.

"We have a firm non-discrimination policy — my campaign does, I do and so has any company I have ever run," Oxford said. "I do not tolerate workplace discrimination."

Squires also supports ENDA, and said she is proud that many of her campaign staffers are gay or lesbian.

Majette is a co-sponsor of ENDA in the U.S. House.

The other candidates in the Democratic field are Leigh Baier, Jim Boyd, Sid Cottingham, James Finkelstein and Govind Patel.

Ryan Lee can be reached at **rlee@sovo.com.**

HRC Atlanta is proud to bring you
THE THIRD ANNUAL PRIDE BLOCK PARTY
EQUALITY = JUSTICE
PRESENTING SPONSOR
Turner
A TimeWarner Company
HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN
Nickiemoto's Midtown
990 Piedmont Avenue (at 10th Street)
$35 • SUNDAY, JUNE 27th
11am–4pm
• All you can eat brunch 11am–1pm • Cash bar all day • Restroom access • AC
• Grandstand viewing for parade • Free mimosas and bloody marys before the parade
Tickets available at:
Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse, or Charis Books & More

atlanta news

AIDS quilt display criticized by ousted founder

Lawsuit by creator over firing last year still pending in court

By CHRISTOPHER SEELY

A decision by the Atlanta-based Names Project Foundation, which owns the 50-ton AIDS Memorial Quilt, to display a portion of the quilt near the White House this month is being criticized by the quilt's founder.

The disagreement continues a months-long public spat between Cleve Jones, who conceived the AIDS Quilt in 1985, and officials with the foundation, which terminated his position last December.

A lawsuit filed by Jones is pending in a California court.

"This is, in my opinion, a pathetic attempt by the Names Project to hang on to money that was donated for something very different," Jones said.

Jones worked to raise funds last fall to support a display of the entire quilt in Washington before the November presidential election. But foundation officials said the project wouldn't be feasible this year. In December, they fired Jones.

Jones alleges that the Names Project is using a $500,000 donation he solicited from Bristol-Myers Squibb, a pharmaceutical company, to fund the display this month in Washington. The donation was intended to help display the entire quilt in October.

Some 8,000 panels of the 50,000-panel quilt are now scheduled for display June 25-27. The event marks National HIV Testing Day on June 27 and launches a two-year tour of the quilt in shopping malls across the U.S. that concludes with a full display in June 2006, according to Julie Rhoad, executive director of the Names Project.

Rhoad said the $500,000 contribution came after Jones' original solicitations, but the terms of the grant were not clarified until March, which is when the foundation pursued the smaller display in Washington.

Bristol-Myers Squibb made the "key cash donation" to cover 18 months of programming, including the display, she said. Other charitable contributions secured by the foundation are for in-kind services.

"Given the needs to energize efforts to combat new infections in particular, we felt it was wise to go back to our touring roots, to build momentum and, sadly but true, to add new panels from communities being ravished by this disease," Rhoad said.

Jones, who worked as a spokesperson for the foundation until he was fired in December, criticized the upcoming national tour of the quilt.

"Proposing a tour of shopping malls has to be about the most ineffective proposal I've ever heard," Jones said.

The 8,000 newest panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt are set to be displayed in Washington, D.C., later this month at the Ellipse, a grassy park south of the White House. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

Rhoad did not directly respond to Jones' criticism.

Filing suit

In January, Jones filed a wrongful termination suit against the Names Project and sought to ensure that the foundation continues his health insurance. Jones, who is HIV-positive, said the organization agreed to provide insurance for life in a verbal agreement.

Jones claims that the Names Project fired him in retaliation for his verbal and written discontent with the board for not assisting him in raising funds for a full display of the quilt this fall.

The legal maneuver was also an attempt to return the quilt to San Francisco, where it was located before the Names Project moved to Atlanta in 2001.

To date, Jones still receives health insurance from Names Project, according to Angela Alioto, his attorney.

A trial date in San Francisco Superior Court of California is set for December, Alioto said.

Rhoad has declined to comment on the specifics of Jones' charges.

After the foundation relocated to Atlanta in 2001, seven chapters of the agency ceased operations over concerns that the new national office would impede their independence and threaten their finances by imposing prohibitive fund-raising measures.

Chapters in San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Central Ohio, Houston, Rhode Island, Southeastern Massachusetts and Syracuse, N.Y., closed by May 2002.

But none of the foundation's roughly 30 other chapters have shut down since, Rhoad said.

"The local chapters that have been part of our organization since the original controversy have all stayed and are excited and participating in the display," she said.

Christopher Seely can be reached **cseely@sovo.com**.

Be a part of this award winning community today.
Enjoy the quality and convenience of tomorrow.
Buckhead Place
CITY HOMES
a Gated Community
From the $400's
404-633-3610
Dan Woodley
COMMUNITIES Inc.
"We Build on Our Reputation Everyday!"
2003 Best Building Design
Lenox Square Phipps Plaza
Convenient to: Restaurants
Private Terraces • Low DeKalb Taxes • Award Winning Designer Model
Directions: I-85 North to N. Druid Hills Rd. Cross 85. Cross Buford Hwy. Approx. 100yds on left.

atlanta news

Competing events drained Hotlanta, organizer says

HOTLANTA, continued from Page 3

moters finding themselves hard-pressed to attract the largest crowds.

"Everyone feels the pressure to top what they did the year before, and with that comes having to have more money," Baker said.

Ten years ago, a circuit party consisted of a warehouse, a DJ and some good music, but parties are now held in stadiums or theme parks like Disney World and feature elaborate costumes and sets, Baker said.

Hayden said the trend toward "bigger and better" circuit parties helped facilitate the demise of Hotlanta and similar non-profit events. In a recent editorial for thecircuitdog.com, he criticized some circuit events as being "soulless" — focused on enriching promoters instead of helping charities.

"We've eliminated the cause from our assemblies and there are promoters who are assaulting the senses with the bigger and better party," Hayden said. "It's the equivalent to casual sex. This new 'casual party' feels good and at the moment it seems like no one is being hurt.

"But I'm now convinced that all of that confetti that falls from the sky is really pieces of non-profit, volunteer-run debris," Hayden said. "The 'soulless' events are annihilating the entire scene."

Hotlanta 2003 'end of the rope'

On top of problems attracting people to Hotlanta events, the organization was also plagued by internal theft for two years.

In 2000, CFO Keith Davi allegedly stole $32,500 from the organization, but entered into a confidentiality agreement with Hotlanta organizers that permitted him to repay the money in $500 bi-monthly increments, then-HRE President Stan Neal told Southern Voice in August 2002.

Contacted this week for comment, Neal asked for time to gather his thoughts and prepare remarks. He agreed to be contacted again the following day, but did not respond to interview requests by press time.

In 2001, Davi's successor, Ed Honstine, allegedly stole $15,000 in checks and cash from Hotlanta.

Honstine pleaded guilty to one count of theft-by-taking on May 10 in Fulton County Superior Court, according to Lyn Vaughn, a spokesperson for the Fulton County District Attorney's office. Honstine is scheduled to plead guilty to a second count of theft-by-taking on June 23, Vaughn said.

But Craft said these past transgressions didn't significantly factor into the problems Hotlanta faced going into the 2003 event.

After becoming president in the fall of 2002, Craft said he contacted his brother, who is a CFO at a Fortune 500 company, for budget advice — only to be told that it appeared he jumped on the Titanic just before it hit the iceberg, Craft said.

"The [debt] issues were so deep and so ingrained for so many years that short of a miracle, we knew it couldn't continue," Craft said. "The group [of volunteer organizers] knew things were difficult, but they busted their butts trying to save the organization and the event."

Craft would not say how many people attended HRE in 2003, but the entire weekend was characterized by low attendance at events and venue changes caused by budget shortfalls.

The pageants of Hotlanta typically drew large and raucous crowds. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

At the Miss Hotlanta pageant "paid attendance was approximately one-third of projections and the event generated a net financial loss for HRE," according to an August 2003 press release.

Similarly at the Mr. Hotlanta pageant, "paid attendance was incredibly disappointing and the event generated a large net financial loss for HRE," the press release said.

The weekend's marquee party at the Fabulous Fox Theatre came closer to breaking even, but "it became clear that [the money it raised was] not sufficient to compensate for the significant losses incurred [earlier in the weekend]," the release said.

Soon after Hotlanta 2003 wrapped up, Craft said, "there was a pretty clear understanding [among HRE board members] that that was the end of the rope."

There was never an official vote to disband Hotlanta, and a downsized board "is continuing to function as it is legally obligated to its creditors," Craft said.

He added that he wished he would have recommended Hotlanta file for bankruptcy in 2002, but there are no talks of the organization doing so now. The only assets Hotlanta has that might be able to generate money are the various event trademarks the organization owns, Craft said.

Mitchell, the Atlanta DJ, said it is a tremendous loss for Hotlanta to be folding.

"I can't even imagine the economic impact a non-Hotlanta summer will have on some of our local gay businesses," Mitchell said. "I would guess in Atlanta we are toward the middle of an ice age where we're seeing who can survive lean times.

"There are too many unknown factors to predict what the club and circuit world will look like when that ice thaws, but apparently Hotlanta will be one of the species that will be alive only in fond memories of those who have attended over the years," he said.

Craft also lamented the end of an Atlanta tradition.

"After 25 years, it's a disappointment," he said. "But everything has its time, I guess."

Ryan Lee can be reached at **rlee@sovo.com.**

Hotlanta history

Hotlanta River Expo, often dubbed by organizers as the "granddaddy of circuit events," began as an informal gathering, but it grew to attract thousands to the city.

1978
Some 300 gay men join together on a Sunday afternoon in late summer for a raft race along the Chattahoochee River.

1979
The event becomes more organized and some 250 people splash down the Chattahoochee. "I think the whole thing behind it was that we were wanting to put Atlanta on the map," said Bob Williams, an original event organizer. "Atlanta was not very well known back in 1979. We just wanted to bring people to Atlanta. We were proud of the city, but no one ever had a reason to come here as far as the gay community was concerned."

1980
An estimated 300 men take part.

1981
Word spreads about Hotlanta and 500 gay men attend.

AUG. 7-11, 1996
The 18th annual Hotlanta River Expo expands to five days, but the event faces competition from Buried Treasure events and two 12-hour circuit parties from Throb Productions. Organizers say they erased a $250,000 debt and select Project Open Hand, AID Atlanta and Jerusalem House as beneficiaries. A three-hour raft race on Aug. 10 stretches along the Chattahoochee River. The Mr. Hotlanta contest draws 16 contestants and takes place in the Civic Center. Event organizers take advantage of relaxed liquor ordinances that allow nearly 24-hour sales during the Olympics.

The raft race, a signature event of the Hotlanta River Expo, was cancelled in 2002 when a raft rental company went out of business. (Photo by Sher Pruitt)

AUG. 6-10, 1997
Hotlanta ranks as the 25th largest convention held annually in Atlanta, and one of biggest events on the gay circuit. AID Atlanta is a beneficiary. The official program includes a letter addressing illegal drug use often thought to take place during circuit events. To discourage illicit activities, all restroom stalls at parties are marked for one person only. After a dozen years at the Sheraton Colony Square Hotel, the event moves to the Westin Peachtree Plaza downtown. Critics later say the move out of its Midtown headquarters changed the feel of the festivities. The event falls an estimated $30,000 short of paying its bills.

AUG. 5-9, 1998
The 20th anniversary of Hotlanta River Expo, with the theme Platinum, returns to the Sheraton Colony Square. The Mr. Hotlanta contest moves to the Fox Theatre and attracts a crowd estimated at 2,500 people. Some 500 take part in the raft races along the Chattahoochee River. Organizers donate a portion of the $10,000 they pledged to AID Atlanta as a beneficiary of the event; remaining funds are paid in June 1999. Pets Are Loving Support, the Atlanta AIDS Walk and Joining Hearts also receive funds. Police shut down the popular Saturday night party after three partygoers require medical care. Organizers say the early closing was due to GHB usage among attendees. Some 4,000 attend the evening event.

AUG. 12-15, 1999
The event returns to the Westin Peachtree Plaza, and some 4,000 people attend the dance on Saturday night. Guests arriving at parties are greeted by poster-size signs warning about drugs and alcohol in general — and GHB in particular. Two people are hospitalized during the four days of events. Organizers donate $18,000 to AID Atlanta and AIDS Walk Atlanta. Staff from the agency hand out condoms and information on HIV and substance abuse during events.

AUG. 10-13, 2000
Hotlanta remains at the Westin with the theme "The Year of the Dragon." The Asian theme ignites protests and prompts organizers to apologize and modify advertising for the circuit event. A dozen members of the Ad Hoc Committee for Racial Justice attempt to protest at the Saturday night dance at the Westin, but are ejected. A raft race participant is hospitalized. Police shut down the event's closing party, alleging that the venue does not have proper permits. Some 9,000 attend portions of the four-day event.

AUG. 9-12, 2001
The event returns to the Sheraton Colony Square in Midtown. A near-capacity crowd packs the Yaarab Temple on Ponce de Leon for the main party, featuring several elaborate production numbers. DJ Tracy Young receives a rousing ovation from the crowd when she stops the music and warns attendees to party safely. Five partygoers are treated for apparent GHB overdoses. The event falls almost $100,000 short of expected revenues.

The Mr. Hotlanta contest often drew thousands of fans to the Fox Theater for a parade of beefcake. (Photo by Sher Pruitt)

AUG. 8-11, 2002
Organizers cancel the raft race after the Chattahoochee Outdoor Center, the company from which Hotlanta rented rafts in the past, closes. On the eve of the event, organizers acknowledge they fired two financial directors over the past two years for allegedly stealing $47,000 from the non-profit agency. AID Atlanta, a beneficiary for six years, is told not to expect a donation, though it later receives a $1,000 donation. The event Web site touts $150,000 in donations to AIDS groups since its inception, but organizers said it would take "several weeks" to account where the group's reported donations had gone. The event brings in $154,612 with expenses totaling $151,819. Some 5,000 people attend.

JULY 31-AUG. 3, 2003
"Cruise the Nile" turns the Fox Theatre into a makeshift river for the signature Saturday night dance event. Popular DJ Chris Cox headlines. Pets Are Loving Support is named a beneficiary, though the amount of any donation is not released. Organizers are forced to move the final two parties from the Fox Theatre and the Civic Center to local nightclubs because of outstanding debt and lower-than-expected attendance.

Compiled by Matthew A. Hennie

Delta Air Lines.
Bringing friends together.

Delta, your hometown airline, is proud to support:

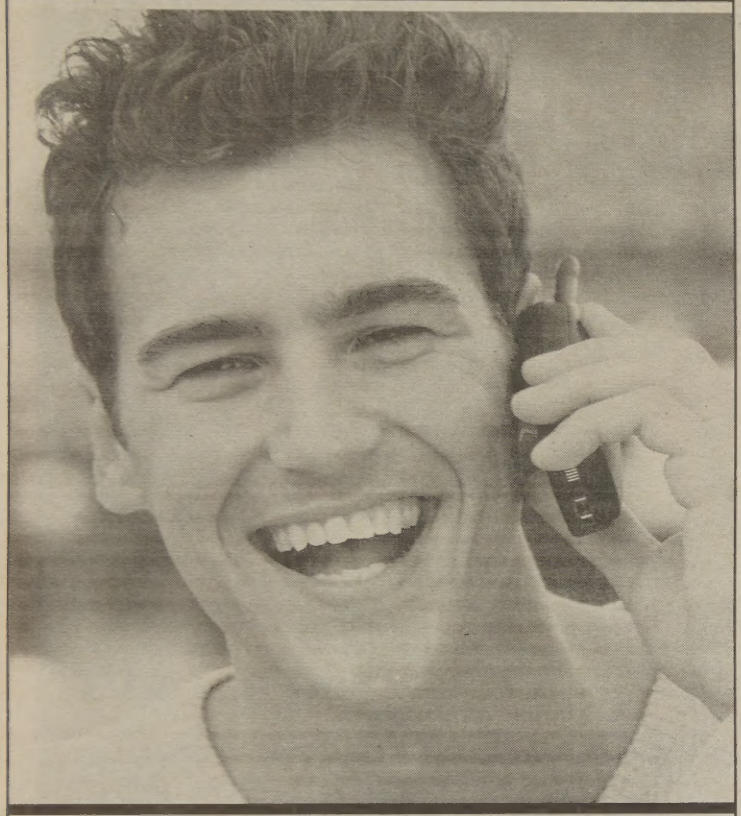
Atlanta Pride Festival
Boston Pride
New York Heritage of Pride
San Francisco Pride

Delta

© 2004 Delta Air Lines, Inc.

A portion of travel for some itineraries may be on the Delta Connection carriers. Atlantic Coast Airlines, Atlantic Southeast Airlines, Chautauqua, Comair, and SkyWest, codeshare partner American Eagle, or Song, Delta's low fare service.

the art of living well



OWN A ONE BEDROOM
from $726 per month*

6 UNIQUE FLOORPLANS!

- 2 & 3 bedroom homes available
- Located in Atlantic Station
- New Construction
- Courtyard swimming pool
- Fitness Center
- Reserved covered parking
- 10,000 sq. ft. Wellness Center & Spa (available for membership)

THE ART FOUNDRY at atlantic commons

404.459.6240
www.condo-lane.com
Call for appointment today
M-F 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5

FINAL RELEASE
ONE BEDROOMS
700-1,080 sq. ft.
from the $160s to the $220s

*Example: $167,000 purchase price; $0 down; 5-year arm, interest only, 80% mort, $133,600 = $566.67; 20% mort, $33,400 = $160. Does not include taxes (1.75% of the purchase price) or HOA dues (approx. $200 per month). Payment for qualified lenders with credit score of 680 or above may be required. Rates are subject to change.

Atlantic Station

CONDO LANE

national news

La. Senate approves measure to ban gay marriage

BATON ROUGE, La. — The Louisiana Senate voted 31-6 last week to place a ban on same-sex marriage and civil unions in the state constitution, a proposal that will go to the voters this fall. Still in question after the vote is the date of the election. As it came out of the Senate, the measure calls for an election date of Sept. 18. The House sponsor, Rep. Steve Scalise (R-Metairie) had wanted a Nov. 2 date, coinciding with the presidential election and Scalise's own race for Congress. It takes a two-thirds vote for the House to approve any Senate changes. If the House rejects the changes, the bill would go to a conference committee. Scalise said he may bring the revision up for a vote soon but he had not decided whether to try to restore the Nov. 2 date. The election date has been the only major subject of disagreement. Some argue that the measure is a political ploy to help boost conservative turnout for President Bush, and Republican candidates such as Scalise.

Louisiana Rep. **Steve Scalise**, a Republican, sponsored a measure to add a ban on gay marriage and civil unions to the state constitution and wants voters to face the question on the Nov. 2 ballot.

Calif. gay marriage showdown headed for San Francisco court

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Legal challenges across California asking whether the state constitution permits same-sex marriages were consolidated into one case and will be tried in San Francisco, a state agency overseeing the courts decided last week. Gay couples in Los Angeles and San Francisco, and opponents of gay marriage, have filed various lawsuits that were consolidated at the request of Attorney General Bill Lockyer, who has taken no position on the matter. The Judicial Council ordered the cases tried as one in San Francisco Superior Court. But whatever is decided in that court will be reviewed by the California Supreme Court, which invited such challenges this spring. The seven justices are unlikely to get the case for at least a year. The gay marriage dispute began in February when San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom permitted the city to issue same-sex marriage licenses.

Tribal judge freezes action in Okla. case of lesbian couple

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. (AP) — A tribal court judge has frozen any action in the case of a lesbian couple who obtained a marriage certificate from the Cherokee Nation. Tribal District Judge John Cripps issued a temporary injunction after reviewing a complaint alleging the certificate is invalid because the lesbian couple who received it doesn't qualify for marriage under Cherokee Nation law. Todd Hembree, a Cherokee citizen and tribal council attorney, filed the complaint in tribal court last week. A hearing was set for June 18. When Owasso residents Kathy Reynolds and Dawn McKinley originally applied for the certificate May 13, they received one without protest. Under tribal procedures, a marriage isn't validated until the certificate is returned and filed at the tribal courthouse. The women weren't allowed to file their certificate after they were wedded in a ceremony. The tribe issued a moratorium that day, halting the distribution of tribal marriage licenses for any tribal citizens.

Tenn. officials in no hurry to vote on gay resolution

DAYTON, Tenn. (AP) — Rhea County commissioners are taking their time with a second attempt at a resolution supporting Tennessee's ban on gay marriage. A fumbled attempt earlier this year led to a vote banning gays altogether — threatening them with arrest for "crimes against nature." That measure was quickly withdrawn, but not before national attention brought protests and cries of outrage from gay people. The commissioners are now working up a resolution that would specify support for the state's ban on gay marriage. The resolution was originally on the agenda for last week's meeting. But the resolution is instead headed for a workshop to make sure it says what they want it to say. "After the last incident, we don't want to put anything hastily on the agenda," Commissioner Dennis Tumlin said.

State high court to hear lesbian's claim against San Diego club

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The state Supreme Court agreed last week to hear an appeal from a San Diego woman who contends that California's civil rights law should protect her and her female partner from discrimination based on marital status. B. Birgit Koebke filed a lawsuit against the Bernardo Heights Country Club in 2001 because it requires her to pay guest fees whenever her state-registered domestic partner, Kendall French, plays golf at the club. Bernardo Heights maintains that only a member's legal spouse is entitled to free use of the course and other family benefits. In Atlanta, a city commission recently found that the Druid Hills Golf Club was found to violated the city's anti-discrimination ordinance by refusing spousal benefits to a lesbian couple and a gay male couple. Efforts in the Atlanta case to mediate a solution broke down in late May. Koebke, a 47-year-old television sales executive, argues that the state's 1959 Unruh Civil Rights Act protects her from discrimination based on marital status. Since California law bans same-sex marriage, Koebke contends, she cannot fully enjoy the benefits of her club membership, which she purchased in 1986.

From staff and wire reports

national news

U.S. Senate again approves hate crime bill

Republicans push for July vote on Federal Marriage Amendment

By JOE CREA

WASHINGTON — The Senate voted 65-33 on Tuesday to add "sexual orientation" as a protected category to the federal hate crime law, as Senate Republicans announced they are planning to schedule a vote on the Federal Marriage Amendment for mid-July, just before the Democratic National Convention convenes in Boston.

Eighteen Republicans joined all 47 Democrats in voting for the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, an amendment attached to the $422 billion Defense Department Authorization bill. The lone Senate Democrat not to vote for the measure was Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, who was campaigning and missed the vote. Sen. Jim Jeffords (I-Vt.) also skipped the vote.

To become law, the bill must still be passed by the House or adopted in a House-Senate conference, and then be signed by President Bush. The measure would add "real or perceived sexual orientation, gender and disability" to existing federal hate crime laws.

The leading sponsors of the bill, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass) and Sen. Gordon Smith (R-Ore.) were instrumental in helping to pass the legislation, which has cleared the Senate on three previous occasions, only to be defeated in the House.

Smith told the Associated Press that because of the bill's history in the House, the measure could be stripped during the final House-Senate negotiations.

"There's no guarantee it won't be, and there's a real possibility that it will be," Smith said.

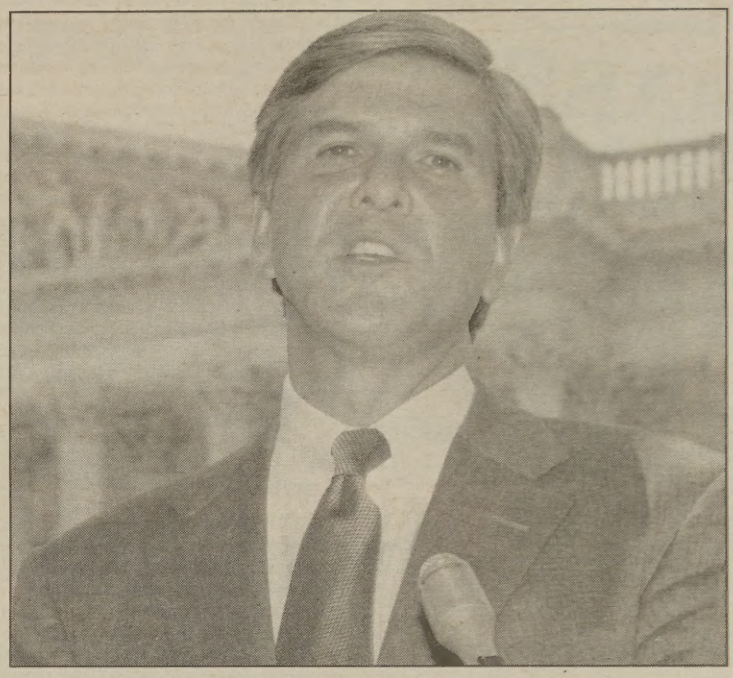
Cheryl Jacques, president of the Human Rights Campaign, said her group will work "tirelessly in the House" to ensure that the measure survives a conference committee before it moves to President Bush.

"We hope the president is watching the strong bipartisan support," Jacques said.

The White House did not respond to Southern Voice inquiries but an Associated Press story quoting White House spokesperson Claire Buchan, reported, "The president believes anyone who commits a violent act should receive swift and sure punishment, and that all violent crime is a hate crime."

"The president believes all individuals should be treated fairly and equally under the law," Buchan added.

During the 2000 presidential debates, Bush sidestepped a question about hate crimes measures, saying he supported a proposal by Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) that hate crime law supporters said would gut their efforts.



Sen. **Gordon Smith** (R-Ore.) said a hate crime measure could be stripped from the House version of the bill he co-sponsored with Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) The Senate has passed the bill four times, but Republican leadership in the House and Senate has blocked it each time. (Photo by Dennis Cook/AP)

Also Tuesday, reports surfaced that Senate Republicans will seek a vote on the Federal Marriage Amendment in mid-July. Jacques said that a "yes" vote on hate crimes was in no way "some political inoculation from a pro-Federal Marriage Amendment vote."

"There is nothing that would inoculate you should you support the FMA," said Jacques in a clear warning to senators who voted in support of hate crimes and may vote in favor of the FMA.

Chris LaBonte, deputy director for legislation at HRC, said the language in the hate crime measure will cover crimes motivated by the victim's gender identity or expression, noting that "similar state legislation has been interpreted in state courts to protect the rights of transgender Americans."

That interpretation has in the past been questioned by transgender rights activists, who have demanded specific language on the issue be included.

FMA vote timed for convention

An article in Roll Call on Tuesday reported that the Senate Republican leadership is seeking a mid-July vote on the Federal Marriage Amendment. The controversial issue will be taken up just before the Democrats convene in Boston for their presidential nominating convention.

Chris Barron, political director for the Log Cabin Republicans, said there are Republicans who want to get Democrats on the record on the gay marriage issue before the Democrats hold their convention in Massachusetts, the only state issuing licenses to same-sex couples.

Republican Conference Chair Sen. Rick Santorum told Roll Call that the leadership has yet to announce a specific date for the vote.

"We are sort of running the traps on this right now, and sort of seeing what kind of response we are getting," Santorum told Roll Call.

But in an e-mail newsletter sent this week, the Family Research Council claims that, "in a conference call this morning with a handful of pro-family leaders, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) told us that the Senate will vote on the FMA during the week of July 12."

Sen. Judiciary Chair Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) said that it needs to come up for a vote, "and we need to vote on it one way or another," Roll Call reported.

The Family Research Council wrote that "no Senate office should be spared a barrage of phone calls between now and July 12."

Jacques said that while Santorum says he only has 48 votes in support of the amendment, gays and lesbians, "should take nothing for granted."

"We have to go back to every senator who has made public comments to oppose the FMA and those who have made no comments," she said.

An amendment to the Constitution requires support from two-thirds of the Senate (67 votes) and the House (290 votes), and then must be ratified by three-fourths of the country's state legislatures (38 states).

Hate crimes bill history

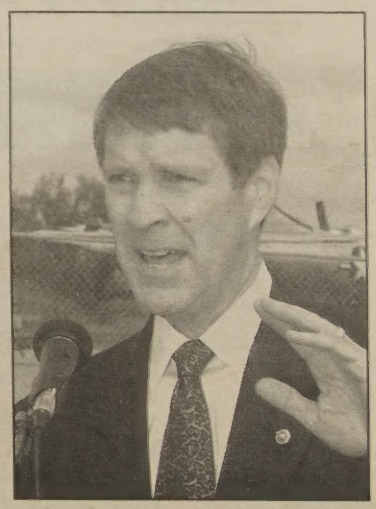
- Passed Senate in July 1999 as amendment to the appropriations bill for Commerce, Justice, State Departments; stripped in House-Senate conference
- Passed Senate 57-42 in June 2000 as amendment to Defense Department authorization; House passed 232-192 a motion to instruct conferees to accept Senate amendment; stripped in House-Senate conference
- Passed Senate 65-33 in June 2004 as amendment to Defense Department authorization

Bush pushes FMA again

The president announced his support for an amendment banning gay marriage in late February and has urged Congress to promptly pass the FMA.

Bush reiterated his support for the measure early this week when he told the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Indianapolis via satellite, "The union of a man and woman is the most enduring human institution, honored and encouraged in all cultures and by every religious faith. And government, by strengthening and protecting marriage, serves the interests of all."

HRC said that the Republican leadership plans to hold another hearing on the FMA on June 22 featuring Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney (R) as a witness. Romney has attempted to prevent his state from issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples even after the Supreme Judicial Court ruled twice that it was unconstitutional to deny gay couples marriage rights.



Senate Majority Leader **Bill Frist** (R-Tenn.) told a group of Christian leaders that he plans to bring the Federal Marriage Amendment up for a vote in the Senate in mid-July, the week before the Democratic National Convention. (Photo by Don Polovich/AP)

FATHER'S DAY
BBQ
BLUEGRASS & GLASS
in the garden

SUNDAY, JUNE 20 | 1-5 PM

Celebrate with the family and enjoy a day in the Garden filled with BBQ, bluegrass, and the glass sculpture of artist Dale Chihuly. With **glassblowing** demonstrations, **face painting**, **birdhouse building**, **worm petting zoo**, **chess**, **checkers**, **tug-o-war**, **pick-up sticks**, and much more!

Bring Dad and he gets in half price!

Father's Day events included with regular Garden admission.
Park at Colony Square for $2 and take free shuttle to the Garden.
BBQ lunches available for purchase. Rain or shine.

WITH THANKS to the family of Arthur M. Blank for their generous support in honor of their father and husband

1345 Piedmont Avenue NE | 404-876-5859 | atlantabotanicalgarden.org

ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN

PHILLY'S ONLY GAY HOTEL!

Designer Rooms from $99 DBL
Includes
• BREAKFAST BUFFET
• FITNESS CENTER
• 6 MOVIE CHANNELS
• E-MAIL COMPUTER CENTER
• DISCOUNTED INDOOR PARKING

Alexander INN

Spruce at Twelfth Street • Philadelphia, PA 19107
Toll Free: (877) ALEX-INN • (215) 923-3535 • Fax: (215) 923-1004 • www.alexanderinn.com

pride news

Revelers dance to 'Chapel of Love' during Boston Pride

BOSTON (AP) — Court approval of same-sex marriage gave extra flair Saturday to the Boston Pride gay and lesbian parade, where men and women danced in tuxedos and wedding gowns atop floats and an oom-pah band played "Chapel of Love." The crowd, which police estimated at between 50,000 and 100,000, grabbed necklaces and trinkets thrown from floats that crept from Copley Square to the Common. The 34th annual march, which organizers call New England's largest, came almost a month after gay marriage became legal on May 17, following a ruling from the state's highest court last year that denying marriage rights to gays and lesbians violated their civil rights. "It's always fabulous, but there's this little extra step this year that makes it special," said Tracy Powers, 60, of Boston. At Powers' first parade about 20 years ago, she wept out of fear that one of her French students might recognize her. This time she waved, smiled and called out to friends as she marched with a social club called Older Lesbian Energy. Few protesters were to be seen. On the parade route, Darrel Hopkins, 59, and his partner, Tom Casey, 52, held a banner proclaiming their September wedding date.

Gavi Wolfe of Cambridge, Mass., public education director for the Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, waves to the crowd during Saturday's Boston Pride parade, the first held in the city since same-sex marriage became legal in the state. (Photo by Lisa Poole/AP)

Mayor bans Gay Pride events in Polish city

WARSAW, Poland — Lesbian and gay Poles planned a June 11 Pride march, but the city's mayor banned all such festivities, Gay.com UK reported. The event was set to raise awareness of discrimination and homophobia in the country, but Mayor Lech Kaczynski put the brakes on the parade after anti-gay groups announced they would attend the event and counter-protest, news outlets reported. Gay rights advocates decried the mayor's move but do not plan to continue with the parade, according to media reports. Officials in Krakow recently butted heads with people planning Pride celebrations there, as politicians claimed gay leaders intentionally scheduled their march on a national Catholic holiday to antagonize the religious right, news reports indicate. Those who participated in the Pride march were pelted with eggs and stones during last month's event, according to media reports. Gay leaders want the European Union to punish Poland for its alleged discriminatory treatment of gays.

Fargo holds its first Gay Pride parade

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — There were no floats, fire engines or marching bands, but an estimated 150 marchers, spanning two city blocks, took part in this city's first Pride parade. Members and supporters of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community formed a historic line at noon June 6 in downtown Fargo. "I'm incredibly happy," said Bob Uebel of the Pride Collective. "Even if we'd marched with 25 or 50 people, I'd still be happy. The thing was to do it." The parade was a new addition to FM Pride, an annual gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender celebration now in its third year. "It's my first Pride as a gay man," said Steven Dais, a senior at North Dakota State University. "I felt it was important to take part." Jasmine Perry, of Moorhead, Minn., said it was good to see "so many people who are so comfortable with who they are." A lone protester stood with a sign on one street corner. As instructed by Uebel, marchers smiled and waved at him.

Gay rights supporters slam amendment at Tulsa Diversity Celebration parade

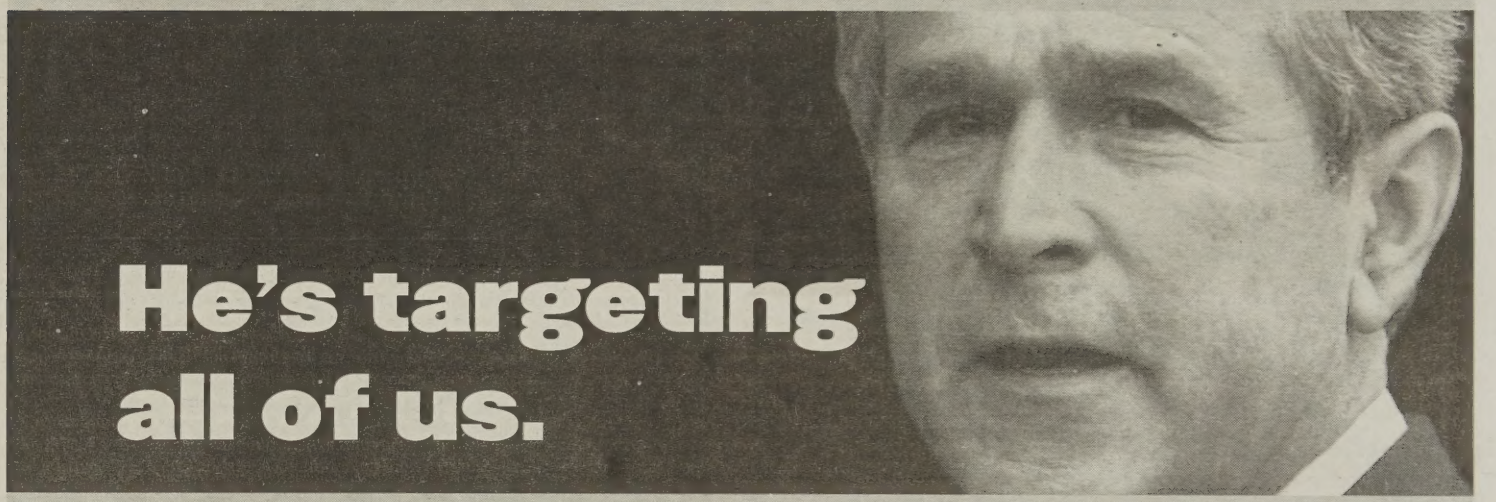
TULSA, Okla. (AP) — Participants in a parade to celebrate gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Pride in Tulsa also took time to speak out against a proposed constitutional amendment to strengthen a ban on same-sex marriages in Oklahoma. A procession of more than 25 entries, including drag queens, AIDS activists, proud parents and church groups, traveled Tulsa streets Saturday before a festival. Hundreds of spectators cheered the Diversity Celebration parade, which is in its sixth year. Justin Conners, 22, said he only started letting others know he is gay a couple of months ago, but he feels it is important, especially considering the vote coming up in November. "I don't think the general public realizes that probably someone they know and love is gay," Conners said.

Mich. Pride rally includes symbolic wedding ceremony

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Gay men and lesbians from across Michigan assembled in the state capital Saturday for the annual Michigan Pride rally, with about 150 couples participating in a symbolic commitment ceremony on the steps of the statehouse. "It's fun to feel like we're the majority once in a while," said Sarah Mieras, spokesperson for Michigan Pride, the group sponsoring the 16th annual rally. "It's extremely empowering for people to feel that they are accepted and loved." About 15,000 people were expected to attend Saturday's events, which included a march of about 40 organizations, educational presentations, a rally at the Capitol, a mass marriage-vow ceremony and a festival. About 150 couples embraced on the Capitol steps during the commitment ceremony. The vows were merely symbolic, since the state doesn't recognize same-sex marriages. Alexandra Raven, 30, of Lansing, attended the march as a way to support her friends and family, many of whom are gay. "If I can come here to be a positive voice, that's what I want to do," she told the Lansing State Journal.

From staff and wire reports

He's not just targeting marriage.



Whether you're interested in getting married or not, you should be interested in what President Bush is up to. He's pushing a Constitutional Amendment that would ban marriage for same-sex couples, in every state in America, forever.

But it's about a lot more than marriage. It's about whether our leaders ever intend to treat GLBT people as equal members of society.

It's about whether advancing their agenda is more important than advancing our right to equality. And it's about whether or not we intend to stop them.

The Human Rights Campaign needs your help. Together, we can show President Bush – and his allies – that we won't stand for it.

Speak now. Or forever hold your peace. Join us today – www.hrc.org

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN.

The Human Rights Campaign is committed to working with GLBT advocacy groups to defeat attempts to put discrimination in the Georgia Constitution.

Curry Honda

"Come Home to Curry"

THE ELEMENT

- able to sleep two adults
- go anywhere
- water resistant seats
- can wash urethane-coated floor with a sponge

WAS THIS CAR MADE FOR US OR WHAT?

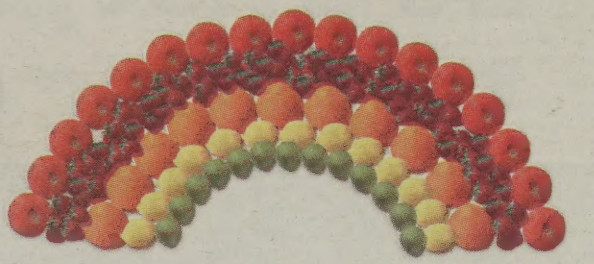
CURRYHONDA

WHEN IS THE LAST TIME YOU HAD A RIDE THIS SMOOTH?

- Wide selection of cars and SUVs in inventory
- Special financing available
- **$0** down and **0%** interest rate with approved credit

5525 Peachtree Ind. Blvd | Chamblee | GA 30341

866.300.0183 | **www.curryhonda-ga.com**



Proud Produce

RETURN TO EDEN

404.320.EDEN (3336)
404.320.1669
2335 Cheshire Bridge Road
Atlanta, Georgia

THE SUPERMARKET FOR HEALTHY EATERS!

GEORGIA ...on my mind

FABULOUS - 5

COURTESY DECATUR — COURTESY LINCOLN/MERCURY — COURTESY DECATUR

1. Instantly upgrade your image in a new Lincoln Aviator or Navigator (comes with all the toys!)
2. Every New Courtesy Lincoln includes a 4 year/100,000 mile warranty!
3. Courtesy Lincoln/Mercury prides itself on exceptional service!
4. You'll receive a $500 Gas Certificate with every new or used vehicle purchase if you bring in this ad.
5. What really counts...you'll get our lowest price without the hassles!

BRAND NEW 2004 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR

- Leather • V8 • A/C
- AM/FM 6 Disc CD
- Tilt • Cruise • Alloys
- Keyless Entry
- All Power & More!
- Stk# 4115

Buy For $37,995 or Lease For $479 per mo.

LEASE FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $3000 DUE AT INCEPTION. INCLUDES $500 SECURITY DEPOSIT. 36K MILES OVER 12,000 MILES PER YEAR.

BRAND NEW 2003 LINCOLN AVIATOR

- Leather • V8 • A/C
- Tilt • Cruise
- Alloy Wheels
- Keyless Entry
- All Power & More!
- MSRP $44,430
- Stk# 3201

SAVE $11,440 OFF MSRP!

Buy For $32,990

PRICES PLUS TAX, TAG, TITLE AND MVA FEES. DEALER RETAINS ALL REBATES AND INCENTIVES. LIMIT ONE PER VEHICLE. NOT AVAILABLE IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. ART FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY. SALE ENDS JULY 30, 2004.

"Large Enough To Serve You, Small Enough To Care."

COURTESY LINCOLN MERCURY

404 633-1500

1788 SCOTT BLVD. • DECATUR • WWW.COURTESYLMDECATUR.COM

SALES HOURS: MON-FRI: 9AM-8PM • SAT: 9AM-6PM • SERVICE HOURS: MON-FRI: 7AM-7PM • SAT: 7AM-4PM

police beat

Police seek clues in slashing death of gay Mo. student

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Police investigating the June 5 slaying of a University of Missouri-Columbia student acknowledged last week he was an acquaintance of Columbia police officer Steven Rios, who they said is not a suspect. Jesse Valencia, a junior history major from Kentucky who worked as a night desk clerk at a local hotel, was found dead outside a residence about a block from his apartment. His throat had been slashed. Valencia, 23, was last seen about 3:30 a.m. that day, leaving a party in a campus neighborhood. Two detectives working on the case spoke to patrons of the SoCo Club two nights later, prior to a benefit show for an annual Gay Pride event. They distributed photos of Valencia and sought information from anyone who might have known or seen him. Asked whether Valencia might have been attacked because of his sexual orientation, Capt. Mike Martin said, "There's been nothing to indicate this was a hate crime."

Columbia, Mo., police officer **Steven Rios** has personal ties to Jesse James Valencia, a gay University of Missouri-Columbia student who was killed early this month. (Photo by Don Shrubshell/AP)

Lawyer: One of Shepard's killers was denied effective legal help

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP) — The lawyer for one of the men convicted of murdering gay college student Matthew Shepard says his client was denied effective legal assistance during trial. Russell Henderson's lawyer has filed a motion alleging Henderson's rights were violated because public defenders did not tell him of the rights he would lose and those he would keep if he pleaded guilty. Henderson, who is serving two life sentences, pleaded guilty in 1999 to felony murder and kidnapping to avoid a possible death sentence. Lawyer Tim Newcomb, who did not handle Henderson's defense at trial, had earlier filed a motion saying his client's rights were violated after he pleaded guilty because the defense team allegedly did not discuss his right to appeal within 30 days. Newcomb is seeking to have Henderson's sentence reduced. A state district judge was to hold a hearing on Newcomb's motion this week in Laramie.

New Orleans writer alleges anti-gay bias in attack

NEW ORLEANS — A local writer was severely beaten by unknown assailants because he is gay, the victim said, according to the Times-Picayune. Paul Willis, well known in the Crescent City as the acting executive director of the Tennessee Williams Festival, was in a Bourbon Street bar late on June 12, talking to his partner and another out-of-town writer, the newspaper reported. Willis went with the visiting writer to help him find his way back to his hotel near the French Quarter, while his partner went home, according to the Times-Picayune. Police said witnesses saw five teenagers jump from a white van and attack Willis, 41, near Verti Mart, a grocery on Royal Street, about 4:30 a.m. on June 13 the newspaper reported. Officer Johnette Williams, a spokesperson for the city's police department, told the Times-Picayune that the incident is under investigation and has not yet been classified as a hate crime. The victim's wallet, containing about $40, was stolen, but his expensive jewelry was not. Willis and his partner want police to classify the incident as a hate crime, according to the newspaper.

Pa. inmate says he strangled cellmate after gay advances

SOMERSET, Pa. (AP) — A state prison inmate charged with strangling his cellmate said he committed the act because the other inmate had made unwanted sexual advances, prison guards testified during a hearing. Steven G. Ramidial, a 27-year-old inmate from Philadelphia, was ordered to stand trial on homicide and other charges in the March 13 death of Jose L. Collazo, 51, of York, his cellmate at the Somerset state prison. During his preliminary hearing last week, two prison guards said Ramidial told them he strangled Collazo because his cellmate "made homosexual advances." "He said inmate Collazo tried to pull some [sexual advances] on him and when somebody does that, he kills them," guard Keith Sarver testified. State prison officials have said Collazo was serving a sentence for indecent assault and was designated a sexual predator under Megan's Law after he was convicted of sexually molesting a preteen girl three times between August 1996 and January 1997.

Criminal charges dismissed against N.Y. mayor who married gay couples

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A judge last week dismissed criminal charges against a small-town mayor for marrying gay couples, saying the state failed to show it has a legitimate interest in banning same-sex weddings. New Paltz Town Court Justice Jonathan Katz also ruled that prosecutors failed to prove the constitutionality of the law New Paltz Mayor Jason West was charged with violating. West had faced the possibility of fines or up to a year in jail for presiding at the weddings of more than two dozen same-sex couples on Feb. 27. The weddings drew the Hudson Valley village of New Paltz into the growing national debate over gay marriage. West remains barred from marrying same-sex couples under an order issued earlier this week by another judge. But he and his lawyer E. Joshua Rosenkranz called Katz's ruling a major victory for gay rights

From staff and wire reports

Thursday June 24, 2004, from 6:30-9:00pm
$10 Donation at the Door

RSVP: reservations@piedmontbark.com
Midtown Atlanta at Amsterdam Walk
501 Amsterdam Avenue 404.873.5400

PIEDMONT BARK
www.piedmontbark.com
DOGGIE DAYCARE BOARDING GROOMING

- Chance to win a weekend getaway for two compliments of Delta Air Lines and Intercontinental Hotels Group
- Beverages by Cool Daddy's Daiquiris and Coors Light
- Music by DJ Greg Moseley
- Pet Photos

A Yappy Hour for our canine friends and family to benefit Atlanta Pride Committee & P.A.L.S., Pets Are Loving Support
Doggie Pride
PIEDMONT BARK YAPPY HOUR

Due to state regulations, no dog will be allowed into the facility without proof of current Rabies, DHLP, Corona and Bordatella vaccinations.

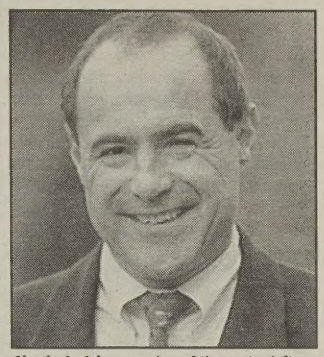
SPONSORS:
InterContinental Hotels Group · Coors Light · Aspen Edge · Delta · Relax · Lickalot's

River's Edge
From the $290's
"GREAT LIFE. UNMATCHED STYLE."
• Exclusive gated community
• 2 BR/3.5 BA townhome with optional 3BR/Office.
• Finished basements
• Hardwood flooring
• Gourmet kitchens
• Stainless steel appliances
• One- and two-car garages
Sales Center Open Daily 404.315.1111
I-85 north to Exit 89, North Druid Hills Road. Turn left. Cross over I-85. Turn left onto Buford Hwy. Proceed .5 mile to River's Edge on right.
Monte Hewett Townhomes
Building Homes For Life.
www.montehewetthomes.com
Equal Housing Opportunity | Exclusive Sales and Marketing By:
©2003, NRT, Inc.

international news

Gay Swiss leaders vow to protect newly won rights

BERNE, Switzerland — A new Swiss law that recognizes same-sex partners as next-of-kin is insufficient because it does not allow for marriage or adoption, according to gay activists, Swiss Info reported. Still, gay rights advocates say a fight for more equality will have to be put on hold until a referendum regarding the new law is held. The country's parliament last week voted for a new law to allow gay couples to register as partners and inherit each other's property without tax consequences, the news outlet reported. The law, however, does not give gay couples the right to marry, to adopt children or undergo invitro fertilization. Some religious conservatives already plan to challenge the new law and want to force a nationwide referendum on the issue, according to media reports. Claude Janiak, a member of parliament with the center-left Social Democrats party, said he is content with the changes in favor of gay rights so far. "It eliminates the most important areas of discrimination," Janiak told Swiss Info.



Claude Janiak, a member of the center-left Social Democrats party of Switzerland, said he is pleased with the Swiss parliament's approval of some civil rights for gay couples, although conservatives plan to challenge the new measure.

Gay rights activist stabbed to death in Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica — Police said there was no sign of a break-in at the home of a gay rights activist found stabbed to death last week, the Jamaica Observer reported. Brian Williamson, 59, the country's most prominent gay rights advocate, was found dead June 9, and police seek two men who were with him at his apartment prior to his death, the Observer reported. "At this time the police are theorizing robbery to be the motive as a money safe he had is missing and the apartment was ransacked," Corporal Devon Hugh Williams of the Constabulary Communication Network told the Observer. Leaders at the Jamaica Forum for Lesbians, All-Sexuals & Gays (JFLAG) a group founded by Williamson, called the killing a "hate-related crime," according to the Observer. In response to Williamson's killing, Britain's leading gay rights group, OutRage, demanded that Jamaican Prime Minister P.J. Patterson immediately repeal the island's far-reaching anti-gay laws, the Daily Gleaner reported. The group decried the failure of Jamaican police to classify the killing as a hate crime, according to the Gleaner.

Russian measure banning gays from serving in parliament defeated

MOSCOW — The State Duma refused last week to consider a bill banning alcoholics, homosexuals and pedophiles from holding seats in parliament, the Moscow Times reported. Submitted by the Kursk region's legislative leaders, the measure would require newly elected deputies to undergo physical and psychological examinations to ensure they are fit for office, the Times reported. Health Ministry doctors would declare each representative free of "diseases" including homosexuality, according to the Times. "Chronic diseases and latent diseases undoubtedly influence one's capability to communicate and observe acceptable behavior norms," the bill read, according to the Times.

Legal brakes applied to France's first same-sex marital union

BORDEAUX, France — The country's first gay wedding, held two weeks ago, should be nullified by a court, the state prosecutor requested June 11, according to Agence France-Presse. The chief judge of the Bordeaux court is expected to soon set a date to hear the matter and order the two men who were married to appear in court, the press agency reported. Against warnings of authorities, Green Party Mayor Noel Mamere officiated at the wedding ceremony of Bertrand Charpentier, 31, and Stephane Chapin, 34, on June 5 in the Bordezu suburb of Begles, according to Agence France-Presse. The couple said they plan to take their case to the European Court of Human Rights if the marriage is declared invalid, a move promised by the conservative government, the press agency reported. France already has civil unions, made law in 1999, that allows couples including gays to attain some, but not all, legal rights of marriage, the news outlet reported.

Long-running Canadian battle over gay partner benefits continues

TORONTO — Gays and representatives for the federal government last week faced off again over back payments of same-sex pension benefits, the Canadian Press reported. The two sides argued before Ontario's highest court on when payments to gay partner survivors should have begun, the Press reported. Ottawa changed its law four years ago to allow survivors of same-sex relationships to claim benefits under the Canada Pension Plan, retroactive to 1998, according to the Canadian Press. But gay plaintiffs who won the right for the benefits say the payments should be retroactive to April 1985, when same-sex couples were granted equal rights via the country's Charter of Rights. "From that day forward, all Canadians are equal," said George Hislop, 77, lead plaintiff in a class-action suit on the benefits, the Press reported.

From staff and wire reports

national news

Criticism mounts over director of federal agency

Failure to enforce anti-discrimination protections alleged

By JOE CREA

WASHINGTON — After pledging that his office would enforce anti-discrimination protections for federal workers based on sexual orientation, Office of Special Counsel Director Scott Bloch failed to restore language to the OSC Web site and training materials stating that discrimination based on sexual orientation is prohibited in the federal workplace, according to some members of Congress and legal experts.

The information was removed from the OSC Web site earlier this year.

Bloch has also been criticized for reportedly implementing a gag order designed to prevent OSC staff from discussing with other federal employees the director's policy on handling complaints of sexual orientation discrimination.

In a letter to congressional leaders, Bloch wrote that he encourages employees who say they are the victims of discrimination to file complaints with his office. But he has not said whether the OSC will legally pursue such complaints, said Elaine Kaplan, an attorney who served as the OSC director during the Clinton administration.

"He hasn't restored it [language to the Web site and other OSC documents] because I think he doesn't think it is illegal to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation," Kaplan said. "If OSC does not consider sexual orientation discrimination illegal, what is the point of a gay or lesbian employee filing a complaint that alleges such discrimination? Why can't he be clear about this — if I don't get a federal job because I am gay, is that illegal or isn't it? It's not a hard question."

Critics charge Special Counsel **Scott Bloch** reneged on a promise he made to protect federal workers from discrimination based on sexual orientation. (Photo by Rob Curtis/Federal Times)

The OSC, a small agency with independent investigative and enforcement authority, was created by Congress to protect federal workers from discrimination and retaliation.

A group of congressional leaders also stepped up criticism of Bloch. In a June 1 letter sent to Bloch, Reps. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.), George Miller (D-Calif.), Henry Waxman (D-Calif.), and Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.) wrote that they were concerned with Bloch's overall commitment to protecting gay workers and expressed concern over Bloch's implementation of the gag order.

"As elected Representatives, and federal employees ourselves, we find this policy extremely disconcerting," wrote the members of Congress. "The OSC's primary role is to protect federal employee whistleblowers. It would be a blow to the morale of all federal employees and the American people if an OSC employee found it necessary to become a whistleblower."

Joining the chorus of criticism was Cheryl Jacques, president of the Human Rights Campaign.

"Empty promises won't protect federal employees from discrimination," Jacques said. "If Scott Bloch and the OSC are truly dedicated to restoring these protections, they should make them clear to the federal workforce. Gag orders and hidden policies don't protect employees from discrimination."

Bloch, Bush's appointee to lead OSC, shocked gays and congressional leaders in February when he announced that federal law does not protect gay federal workers from sexual orientation discrimination on the job. At the time, he removed all references to sexual orientation from the OSC Web site and from official documents, including discrimination complaint forms.

After an April legal review, and pressure from the White House and Democratic congressional leaders, Bloch's office declared, "It is the policy of this administration that discrimination in the federal workforce on the basis of sexual orientation is prohibited," essentially mirroring a White House statement in late March affirming the federal government's policy prohibiting such discrimination.

Bloch's action brought calls from Democratic members of Congress for him to resign or be removed from office and prompted the White House to issue a statement noting that President Bush expects federal agencies to enforce the longstanding policy banning discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Bloch did not return several phone calls seeking comment.

Bloch has said in previous interviews with the Los Angeles Times and the Federal Times that he disagrees with the previous interpretation of a U.S. civil service law that sexual orientation discrimination should be classified as a "prohibited personnel practice" in the federal workforce.

Kaplan noted that government officials in the 1970s interpreted the statute to ban sexual orientation discrimination, which was the policy under five U.S. presidents, including Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan.

While President Clinton issued an executive order banning sexual orientation discrimination in the federal workplace, Kaplan noted that the former president made a distinction that the statute, not the executive order, was the legal underpinning for banning discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Fla. lawyer files lawsuit challenging federal DOMA

Activists urged Miami man to postpone challenging law

By PHIL LaPADULA

MIAMI — Miami attorney Ellis Rubin filed a lawsuit last month on behalf of three gay male couples and one lesbian couple. It is the first to challenge the constitutionality of the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as a union of one man and one woman and allows states to refuse to recognize gay marriages performed in other states.

Rubin said his office served three defendants in the case — Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, Florida Attorney General Charlie Crist and Miami-Dade Clerk of Courts Harvey Ruvin — last month. U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft was expected to be served last week.

Ashcroft has 60 days to respond to the suit, and the other defendants have 20 days, Rubin said. Rubin said he expects them to file a motion to dismiss the case.

Rubin is moving forward with the case despite the objections of some gay activists who argue the lawsuit was filed at the wrong time and in the wrong place. He rejected suggestions that the time is not right to challenge the federal marriage law.

"I heard that same criticism when Brown vs. Board of Education was filed," Rubin said.

Rubin, who filed a suit in Broward County in February challenging Florida's gay marriage ban, said he decided to file suit in federal court "because it's the fastest way to get to the Supreme Court of the United States."

"I don't pay much attention to the critics because they haven't been in front of the U.S. Supreme Court," he said.

Rubin pointed to his success in arguing a school desegregation case, Brown v. Dade Christian Schools, in front of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1977.

But Rubin is probably best known as a flamboyant criminal defense attorney who once successfully won a more lenient sentence for a young murder suspect by arguing the man was a victim of "TV intoxication."

Evan Wolfson, executive director of Freedom to Marry, criticized Rubin's timing and his go-it-alone style.

"Overall, I think it's important that we give America time to hear our stories and see the faces of the real families who are at the heart of this civil rights struggle," Wolfson said. "I think attorneys should be working closely with the civil rights lawyers who have brought us to this point, and not rushing to bang out a lawsuit for which they've done nothing to prepare the groundwork."

Nadine Smith, executive director of the gay rights group Equality Florida, said there is a consensus among gay marriage legal experts that Rubin's suit is ill-timed.

"The gay legal community has made a compelling argument why the timing and circumstances are not right for a federal challenge," Smith said. "From all accounts, there is unanimity from the folks who champion this in the courts across the country."

Rubin countered that gay rights groups spend most of their time lobbying and raising money instead of taking direct action to challenge anti-gay bias in the courts.

"The gay rights groups and lobbying groups are just perpetuating themselves," he said. "They spend most of their time raising money. And what are they doing with the money? They're sending more speakers and doing more lobbying."

But Wolfson took issue with Rubin's characterization of gay marriage activists.

"He's taking some cheap shots at some of my colleagues," Wolfson said. "Yet they won the right to marry in Massachusetts."

Active Leadership. Real Results.

Come Meet Alex

Thursday, June 24
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Alston & Bird LLP
Williams Room, 15th Floor;
Atlantic Center Plaza
1180 West Peachtree Street

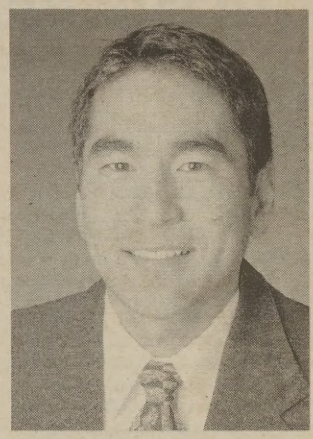
Beer and wine Hors d'oeuvres
Business casual attire
RSVP to Nancy Edmondson
at (404) 881-7004 or
nedmondson@alston.com

$50 suggested contribution

VOTE July 20

Alex WAN

STATE REP. DISTRICT 57



ABOUT ALEX WAN • Grew up in Atlanta and attended DeKalb County Public Schools • Graduated from Georgia Tech and earned an MBA from The Wharton School • Owns and operates an architecture-engineering consulting firm he founded in 1987 • Recognized by Georgia Trend as one of its "Forty Top Georgians Under 40" • Resides in Morningside neighborhood since 1994 • Endorsed by the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund • **COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP** • Founder of For the Kid in All of Us (The Toy Party), a non-profit that generated more than $100,000 in contributions and donated more than 2,300 toys to six children's charities in 2003 • Member of Human Rights Campaign Atlanta Steering Committee, Georgia Equality Circle, and Victory Fund Victory Circle • Host Committee for Joining Hearts (AID Atlanta) to provide housing for people living with HIV/AIDS • Former President of the Organization of Chinese-Americans, Georgia Chapter and current Board member of the Asian American Coalition • Former Board Chair of Leadership DeKalb and graduate of Leadership Atlanta

www.alexwan.org

Authorized and paid for by the Committee to Elect Alex Wan, Rob Borden Treasurer

FRONTRUNNERS ATLANTA PRIDE RUN/WALK

Grant Park June 26, 2004

BENEFITING
Charis Circle ▼ YouthPride

RACE INFO
Saturday, June 26, 2004
Registration: 7:00 - 7:45 am
5K Run/Walk 8:00 am

FRONTRUNNERS ATLANTA

PASTA DINNER
Friday, June 25, 2004
7:00 pm, Einstein's
Reservations required

Online registration/More information
www.FrontRunnersAtlanta.org

EINSTEIN'S · American Roadhouse · LAZER AGE INC · INTERNAL MEDICINE BRAUDE MERMIN SPIVEY MALAMIS PERRY · HEELY-BROWN HB COMPANY · southern voice · Meridian Storage · David Cornell, MD davidcornellmd.com Urology · Vibrations · CREAXION Advertising · Public Relations · Events · URBAN BODY FITNESS · PHIDIPPIDES ATLANTA

AID ATLANTA & THE PEARL TEAM INVITE YOU TO

'BOUND BY PEARLS'

PEARL DAY 15 @ SIX FLAGS OVER GEORGIA
JUNE 23, 2004

- 15 YEARS OF PEARLS & PRIDE -

100% OF YOUR CITY'S SPECIAL PEARLS PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE YOUTH HIV/AIDS PROGRAMS OF: AID ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM AIDS OUTREACH, CHATTANOOGA CARES AIDS RESOURCE CENTER, THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM (COLUMBUS), OR FIRST CITY NETWORK (SAVANNAH)
FOR MORE INFO, VISIT WWW.PEARLDAY.COM

PEARL DAY SPONSORS AND FRIENDS

david · red chair · southern voice · Atlanta · Blake's on the Park · 611 · Backstreet Atlanta · Universal · WETbar · Tabu · 10/4 · Leather · COMPOUND · Burkhart's · thinktank · HOEDOWNS · Atlanta, GA · BOYNEXTDOOR · POSTER HUT · TRIPOD · BULLDOGS · ATLANTA EAGLE · Brushstrokes · CHARIS · Ff · JOE'S · PHOENIX · VAL'S · AUTOMETRIX'S · SEVEN

IN ATLANTA, BUY OFFICIAL $5 & $10 PEARL DAY PEARLS AT: OUTWRITE BOOKSTORE · AID ATLANTA · BRUSHSTROKES · CHARIS BOOKS & MORE · MARY MAC'S · ALL PEARL PARTIES · BACKSTREET & ARMORY GIFT SHOPS

SIX FLAGS OVER GEORGIA DOES NOT OFFICIALLY SPONSOR PEARL DAY.

national news

Gay journalists increase focus on 'newsroom outreach'

New project focuses on accuracy, not advocacy

By LAURA DOUGLAS-BROWN

Before the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association's annual convention next week in New York City, board members will reach out to their peers in the press by meeting with local media outlets to encourage "fair and accurate" coverage of gay issues.

But if biased coverage is later published, don't expect calls for public protests like the campaigns mounted by the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation against Dr. Laura and other targets.

"We are not activists," said Eric Hegedus, incoming president of NLGJA. "Our whole point is working journalist-to-journalist in the newsroom."

The New York meetings, part of NLGJA's new Newsroom Outreach Project, "have given us a means to do what our mission has always been," said Pamela Strother, executive director of the gay journalist group. "Getting to know reporters one-on-one is making a huge difference."

Last year, NLGJA began holding its board meetings in small and medium-sized cities. While in town, board members arranged meetings with local media outlets to discuss ways to better cover gay issues, Strother said.

The success of those meetings led to the formal launch of the Newsroom Outreach Project earlier this year. Meetings have been held with 15 news organizations so far, and the group hopes to conduct 50 such meetings next year, Strother said.

"We have finally hit on what makes sense for newsrooms in how to address these issues," she said.

In the past, NLGJA has been best known for its members' work in advocating for gay-inclusive policies within news organizations, including non-discrimination policies and domestic partner benefits.

But "coverage has always been the first line of our mission statement," Strother said, adding "it's true that our success with employment issues certainly put us on the map ... and our members had to be comfortable to be able to speak up."

Promoting "fair, accurate and inclusive representation of people and events in the media" is also the mission of GLAAD, a media watchdog group with offices in New York and Los Angeles.

GLAAD and NLGJA both monitor media coverage, contact news outlets and distribute guides on how to fairly cover gay issues, including the ongoing debate about same-sex marriage.

The two organizations don't work together, but they do support each other's missions, according to leaders for each.

Eric Hegedus, incoming president of the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association, said the group hopes to improve coverage of gay issues.

MORE INFO

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation
248 West 35th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10001
212-629-3322
www.glaad.org

National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association
1420 K Street NW, Suite 910
Washington, DC 20005
202-588-9888
www.nlgja.org

"GLAAD works really great from the outside, and [NLGJA works] really great from the inside," Strother said.

Glennda Testone, GLAAD media director, echoed Strother's comments.

"We need them pushing from the inside and we need GLAAD to work on the outside," she said.

But journalists may be more likely to respond to NLGJA's efforts than GLAAD, according to Kelly McBride, an ethicist at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies, a non-profit agency that provides training for professional journalists.

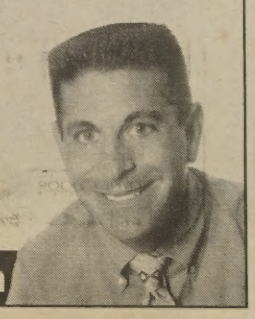
"We always listen to our own better," McBride said. "When we have another organization coming in, that's not necessarily rooted in journalism, we always see that as a special interest group. We think their message is somehow tainted, and we don't listen as closely as we should."

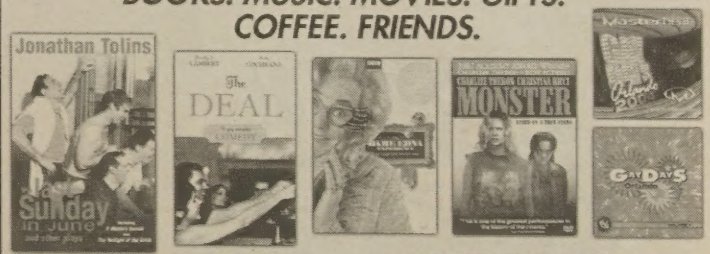
NLGJA and GLAAD also take different approaches when addressing concerns about news organizations. When GLAAD receives a complaint about defamatory coverage, the organization first attempts to discuss the issue with the news outlet in question, Testone said.

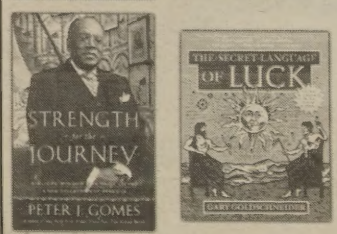
But if GLAAD receives a high volume of complaints and the situation isn't resolved, the group will issue alerts calling on the public to contact the media outlet directly.

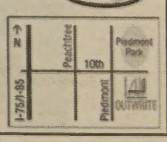
NLGJA has operated its own "Rapid Response Task Force" for about two years, but the organization would never issue public calls for protests against a news outlet, according to Hegedus, also coordinator for the task force.

ELECTRIFYING
3 Bedroom / 2 Bath Midtown Bungalow
822 Argonne Ave
One of Midtown's Best
$ 429,900
This home is a cool classic with a midtown twist that drops your jaw from the moment you hit the door. Located just 4 blocks from Piedmont Park on a premium corner lot. Features include a dramatic living room with 22 ft. ceilings, a huge master bedroom loft, separate dining room, screened in porch among the trees, library with custom built-in bookcases, and much more!
Finn & Co. REAL ESTATE Andrea Finn
404.371.4575 / afinnco@bellsouth.net / www.livingintownatlanta.com

Fort Lauderdale Real Estate
ANDY WEISER
Put Coldwell Banker's Top Producer to work for You
954-560-9667
COLDWELL BANKER

www.AndyWeiser.com

OUTWRITE... for The Best
BOOKS. MUSIC. MOVIES. GIFTS. COFFEE. FRIENDS.




MEET THE AUTHOR
Wed June 23, 8 pm
PHILIP GALANES
reads and signs
"Father's Day"
Knopf
PROUD SPONSOR ATLANTA PRIDE 2004
ATLANTA'S GAY & LESBIAN
OUTWRITE
BOOKSTORE & COFFEEHOUSE
SERVING COFFEE, TEA, COLD DRINKS
CAKE, COOKIES & SNACKS
991 PIEDMONT AVE @ 10TH
MIDTOWN ATLANTA 404-607-0082
Save 10% Online: www.outwritebooks.com
Serving Atlanta Daily
NOW OPEN 10am - 11pm DAILY


national news

HRC endorses Kerry for president despite marriage issue

Critics call senator's marriage position 'slippery gamesmanship'

By JOE CREA

WASHINGTON — Despite his support for a constitutional amendment in Massachusetts banning gay marriage, the Human Rights Campaign enthusiastically endorsed Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) for president on Tuesday.

"We enthusiastically endorse Sen. Kerry for president," said Cheryl Jacques, president of the nation's largest gay-rights organization. "Not simply for his stellar record, but because he gave his endorsement to equality long before it was fashionable."

The decision was made by HRC directors and is the organization's third presidential endorsement in its 25-year history.

Part of Kerry's record, Jacques said, is his "no" vote — along with 13 other senators — against the 1996 federal Defense of Marriage Act. Jacques also noted the senator's opposition to the Federal Marriage Amendment, which would ban gay marriage in the U.S.

Kerry has also been a vocal critic of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, which keeps gays from serving openly in the armed forces.

In the press release announcing the endorsement, Kerry is quoted as welcoming the HRC nod.

"I want to thank HRC for its endorsement. We have worked together on so many battles and we still have many challenges ahead of us," Kerry is quoted as saying.

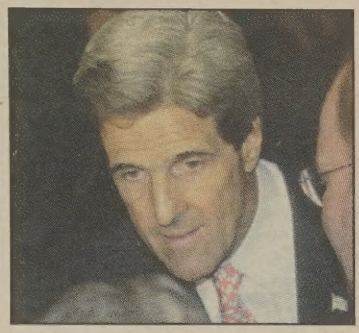
But some activists remain concerned about Kerry's commitment to gay rights, since he endorsed a state constitutional amendment in Massachusetts that would ban same-sex marriage. The amendment could permanently prohibit the issuance of marriage licenses to gay couples in the only state in the nation where they are presently available.

Robin Tyler, a longtime gay activist and co-founder of DontAmend.com, called the endorsement "embarrassing and egregious," and blasted HRC for "pandering" to individuals "who aren't with us."

"HRC is showing that they are accountable to Barney Frank rather than the GLBT movement," Tyler said, referring to the gay Massachusetts congressman who supports Kerry's candidacy.

"To watch somebody pander to someone who believes we should have less than equal rights is disgusting," she said. "HRC needs to decide if they are going to continue to be the wife of Barney Frank or if they are going to be a leader, and we as a community must have the courage to confront Kerry on his positions."

Detroit Free Press columnist Deb Price noted during a news conference about the endorsement that Kerry has been "very forceful" in his opposition to gay marriage and has been hostile when pressed by the media for a more direct answer on how he reconciles his support for a state marriage amendment and his opposition to a federal amendment.



Sen. **John Kerry** (D-Mass.), the presumptive Democratic nominee for president, received an endorsement from HRC this week. (Photo by AP)

Jacques said Kerry gets "no pass" on the marriage issue. She added that his position is not much different than the rest of the country's when it comes to same-sex marriage.

Jacques said she has received "110 percent commitment" from Kerry, personally, that "he would do everything in his power to stop the FMA and any such constitutional amendment" from passing.

Winnie Stachelberg, political director for HRC, said the group did not extract any specific promises from the Kerry campaign in exchange for the endorsement except that he would use "the bully pulpit" of the presidency to fight for gay and lesbian equality.

The Chicago Anti-Bashing Network, a group formed in response to three 1998 anti-gay assaults, announced a plan to protest an HRC fund-raiser on Saturday with former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, a stand-in for Kerry, and Barack Obama, a Democrat running for the U.S. Senate against Republican Jack Ryan.

In a news release, the group criticizes Obama for mimicking "Kerry's slippery gamesmanship" on the marriage issue.

"Obama says he opposes the Federal Marriage Amendment, but also says he opposes gay marriage, contending that 'civil union' should be good enough for gays," according to the release.

Andy Thayer, co-founder of the Chicago group and national action director for DontAmend.com, called the HRC endorsement "outrageous," adding that the gay community "is the only minority community who would endorse someone who doesn't think we are deserving of full equality."

Stachelberg said it was not unusual for HRC to endorse Sen. Kerry even before he selects a running mate.

2003
AWARD WINNING
COMMUNITY of the YEAR
Sweet!
New Condominiums from the Mid-$300s to Mid-$400s
POOL · FITNESS CENTER
CLUB ROOM · MEDIA ROOM
WALK TO DECATUR SQUARE
Final Release
Only 7 Homes Remain
An award-winning new condominium community. A generous amenity package. A location in the charming "walk to" neighborhood of downtown Decatur. An absolutely fabulous lifestyle!
404.377.0068
the CLAIREMONT
ELEGANT SOUTHERN HOMES
417 CLAIREMONT AVE.
Downtown Decatur
MORRIS & RAPER REALTORS

Come celebrate Pride Weekend, June 25-27 in Atlanta.

What better place than the "city too busy to hate" to proclaim that "Equality = Justice" this pivotal election year?

This year is your year. Stroll through the South's largest Pride celebration in lush Piedmont Park. Mingle with friends old and new among the eclectic and energetic cross-section of our community. Venture into gay-friendly neighborhoods and explore Atlanta's delectable food scene, world-class shopping and legendary nightlife.

This is Atlanta. This is your year. We'll save a place for you.

ATLANTA
Convention & Visitors Bureau

Visit www.gay-atlanta.com and reserve your Pride weekend now!

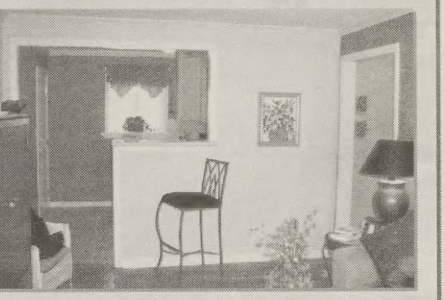
VILLAGE VIEW CONDOMINIUMS

Now Starting At $122,500!

BEST KEPT SECRET IN DECATUR

Open Kitchen Area with New Cabinets!

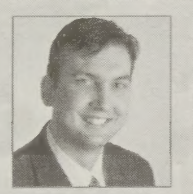
2 Bedroom/1 Bath | New Maple Cabinets/Oak Cabinet
Solid Surface Countertops in Kitchen | New Kitchen Appliances
New Tile Bath | Beautiful Hardwood Floors | Washer/Dryer Connections
Gated Community | Includes built in microwave and refridgerator



Livingroom with View of Kitchen! Crown Molding

Awesome Condo Conversion! Walk to Oakhurst Village and Downtown Decatur! **Gated Community!** All Brick Buildings! Low Monthly Association Fees! **$99/month**

David Travelstead
404.325.5900
email: condoatlanta@aol.com



From Downtown Decatur: Take McDonough to Right on College Ave. West to Left on Jefferson Place. Condos on Right
From Oakhurst Village: Take Oakview Road to Left on Ansley Street to the corner of Jefferson place. Condos on Left.

RE/MAX Executives Atlanta

CHRIS KIDS INC. presents RAINBOW THE kickin' SILENT AUCTION ON EARTH

CHRIS Kids Rainbow Program Silent Auction

Monday, June 21
7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Emcee, Melissa Carter of "All the Hits Q100"
Entertainment by Chris Burke

Park Tavern, 10th & Monroe

Tickets at door $35
For more information, call 404-564-3411

Media Sponsor: Southern Voice
Underwriting Sponsor: Delta Air Lines
Presenting Sponsor: Making Projects Work, Inc.

Champion Sponsors
BellSouthNewANGLE - Chef Ago Go - Joseph Northington & Timothy Tew

Advocate Sponsors
J. Randy Beggs, Ph.D, Midtown Psychotherapy - Benoit Crabeels - Dennis Creadon & Art Miltiades - Lee Meadows & Jeff Masarek, M2 Realty - McKelvey & Russell, LLC - Subaru of Gwinnett Atlanta

Activist Sponsors
Wayne Addis - Ken Britt - Robert Idol - Bob Mathis & Mike Wiacek - KDS Architecture, P.C.

Valet Parking compliments of Lanier Parking Systems

A program of CHRIS Kids, Rainbow provides food, shelter, clothing, medical attention, and counseling to homeless lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth, ages 17-21. The Rainbow program provides a stable, nurturing environment, with structure and role models, enabling residents to learn life skills and self-respect, continue their education, and achieve self-sufficiency.

CHRIS Kids
3111 Clairmont Rd. Ste. B
Atlanta, GA 30329
404-564-3411
www.chriskids.org

ROSE HAMPTON
Design & Construction

Transforming your house into a home

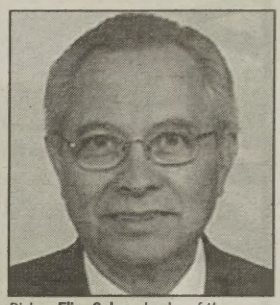
Custom Sunrooms, Master Bath Suites, Additions, Architectural Design, Landscape Design and Implementation, Stone and Rock Walls and Patios. Complimentary Initial Consultation.

www.rosehampton.com | 770.931.8050

religion news

Methodist bishop selects gay pastor to lead congregation

SEATTLE (AP) — The bishop of the United Methodist Church's Pacific Northwest Conference, a focal point of the church's debate over gays in the ministry, has appointed a lesbian pastor to the same congregation that two other openly gay ministers once led. Bishop Elias Galvan chose Rev. Katie Ladd, currently pastor at Crown Hill United Methodist Church in Seattle, to succeed Rev. Mark Williams at Seattle's Woodland Park United Methodist Church on July 1. Williams, who disclosed he is gay at the annual gathering of the regional conference in 2001, is leaving to pursue a master's degree in social work at the University of Washington. Church charges against Williams were dropped a year after his disclosure, after an investigative panel decided it had insufficient evidence that he had violated church law. He remains a minister in good standing in the conference, which encompasses Washington and northern Idaho. Ladd's appointment comes less than three months after Rev. Karen Dammann, who served as Woodland Park's pastor before Williams, was acquitted at a church trial of violating Methodist rules barring "self-avowed practicing homosexuals" from the ministry.



Bishop **Elias Galvan**, leader of the United Methodist Church's Pacific Northwest Conference, last week appointed a lesbian pastor to the same church where two other openly gay clergy once ministered.

Ariz. clergy group decries statements that condemn gays

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Clergy who favor gay rights last week denounced statements that use "religion to sanction the condemnation and rejection" of gays, the Arizona Republic reported. Members of No Longer Silent: Clergy for Justice held a news conference and said they want to reach leaders of all denominations but, in particular, Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix, the newspaper reported. In the last month, Olmsted has challenged the group and nine priests who signed the pro-gay statement, called the Phoenix Declaration, last year, the Republic reported. "We refuse to let prejudice, in the form of religious fundamentalism and society's bigotry, plant seeds of exclusion and violence," the group said in a statement, according to the Republic. Eight of nine Catholic priests who signed the declaration removed their names under pressure from Olmsted; the ninth, a retired priest, was suspended from all ministerial duties by Olmsted, the Republic reported.

Episcopal Diocese of Albany votes to oppose gay clergy

SPECULATOR, N.Y. (AP) — The Episcopal Diocese of Albany has agreed to join a conservative theological network that opposes the ordination of gay priests. The vote to join the Anglican Communion Network was ratified Saturday by a majority of Episcopal clergy and laypeople from 19 New York counties during the diocese's annual convention 70 miles north of Albany. Anglican Communion Network, a national orthodox organization was started in response to last year's appointment of Gene Robinson, the first openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church, the U.S. branch of Anglicanism. Leaders of the diocese, including Bishop Daniel Herzog, were quick to point out that the vote does not represent a break from the national Episcopal Church. "The bishop said this is designed to keep us in," said diocese spokesperson Canon Kay Hotaling. "We're joining a network, a network that will remain Christ-centered in the Anglican Church."

Opponents of gay marriage turn to churches for grassroots support

BEAVERTON, Ore. (AP) — Ken Keeley spends his Sunday mornings at church — not just to worship, but to collect signatures for a ballot measure that would amend Oregon's constitution to ban gay marriage. Keeley, one of roughly 2,000 members at the evangelical Beaverton Christian Church, describes himself as "not that political." But he says the issue of same-sex marriage — and what it means to much of Oregon's people of faith — drove him to join the petition drive. "When everything's OK, you don't have a tendency to act," Keeley said. "But it gets to the point where you get concerned and you have to act." Organizers in Oregon and four other states — Arkansas, Michigan, Montana and Ohio — are turning to churches for support of their grassroots efforts to define marriage as between a man and a woman, a move political analysts call savvy.

Church asks for dismissal of gay marriage complaint

HELENA (AP) — A Baptist church asked the state political practices commissioner last week to dismiss a complaint over an event it hosted supporting a constitutional ban on gay marriage. The complaint was filed last month by Montanans for Families & Fairness, a coalition formed to oppose the ban. The group accused Canyon Ferry Road Baptist Church of violating state campaign finance rules by failing to report its use of "in-kind" resources for a May 23 event urging support for Constitutional Initiative 96. In a court filing, the church called the complaint "insufficient" and "frivolous" and asked Commissioner Linda Vaughey to dismiss it as being "too indefinite." Montanans for Families & Fairness "has abused and misused Montana's political practices and campaign financing laws by filing a complaint with the commissioner of Political Practices that is based solely on conjecture, assumptions and misrepresentations of law and fact," the filing stated.

From staff and wire reports

Think you can't afford a Volvo...think again!

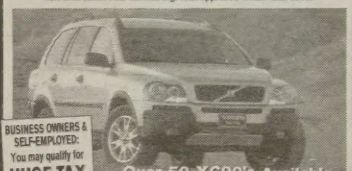
At Dyer & Dyer there's safety in numbers.

That's right. Easily find your Volvo with our outstanding selection. Then, we make buying a Volvo affordable. And drive it home with the peace of mind that you're driving one of the safest cars made.

YOU CAN'T PUT A PRICE ON SAFETY.

CARE BY VOLVO Complimentary Factory Scheduled Maintenance for 3 Years/36,000 Miles on all New 2004 Cars

2004 Volvo XC90
Fully Equipped with Sunroof, Leather Interior, Versatility Package and Premium Package
LEASE FROM $399 MO
51-month closed-end lease. $0 security deposit. $2,495 total due at inception. 48K total miles. Plus tax and tag. With approved credit. Stk. #6469



BUSINESS OWNERS & SELF-EMPLOYED: You may qualify for HUGE TAX SAVINGS on the 2004 XC90 T6

Over 50 XC90's Available for Immediate Delivery!

MSRP $40,200
DYER & DYER Discount $2,200
Complimentary Versatility Pkg. $1,806
PURCHASE FROM $36,194
AAA Members...Receive an EXTRA $500 OFF this Price with a Mail-In Rebate Must be AAA member since January 1, 2004

2004.5 Volvo S40
Impressively Redesigned & Now Available!
LEASE FROM $249 MO
51-month closed-end lease. $0 security deposit. $2,495 total due at inception. 48K total miles. Plus tax and tag. With approved credit. Stk. #6579

MSRP $24,875
DYER & DYER Discount $1,000
PURCHASE FROM $23,875
AAA Members...Receive an EXTRA $500 OFF this Price with a Mail-In Rebate Must be AAA member since January 1, 2004
RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATES: Ask about an additional $500 savings on the purchase or lease on a new S40.

Complimentary Versatility Package on ALL New 2004 XC90s.
Complimentary Premium Package on ALL New 2004 V70s.

2004 Volvo S80 T6
Stk. #5982

Fully Equipped with SUNROOF & LEATHER Interior
MSRP $45,835
DYER & DYER Discount $7,500
PURCHASE FROM $38,335
Receive an Additional $1,000 OFF with AARP Member Discount | Receive an Additional $1,000 OFF with AAA Mail-In Rebate | Receive an Additional $1,000 OFF with Volvo Owner Loyalty Reward | Receive an Additional $1,000 OFF with A, X & Z Plan Member Bonus
Must be AARP member since January 1, 2004. Must be AAA member since January 1, 2004. Must be a current Volvo owner.

2004 Volvo S60 ASR

Fully Equipped with SUNROOF and LEATHER Interior
Original MSRP $33,435
Dyer & Dyer Discount $7,433
BUY THIS CAR FOR $25,992

2004 Volvo V70 2.5 T Wagon

Fully Equipped with SUNROOF and LEATHER Interior Stk. #5315
Original MSRP $36,710
DYER & DYER Discount $7,718
BUY THIS CAR FOR $28,992

Prices do not include destination charge, tax and title. With approved credit. ©2003 Volvo Cars of North America, LLC. "Volvo, for life" is a registered trademark of Volvo. Always remember to wear your seat belt.

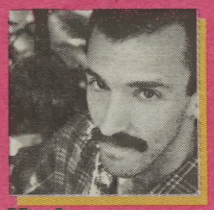
DYER & DYER
5260 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard in Atlanta
(2 miles inside I-285)
New Car Hotline: 770-455-6556
www.dyeranddyervolvo.com or www.dyervolvo.com
VOLVO PRESIDENT'S CLUB
Received for excellence in sales and customer satisfaction.
VOLVO
for life

EQUALITY = JUSTICE
JUNE 25 26 27 2004 THE ATLANTA PRIDE CELEBRATION

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra
friday 8:00

Janis Ian
saturday 8:30

Doria Roberts
saturday 7:30


Mark Weigle
sunday 4:30

Dr Draw
saturday 8:30

Mandy Carter
speaker-Southerners On New Ground

Allen Thornell
grand marshal

Mary Anne Adams
grand marshal

Please:
Give At the Park
Help Us Keep
Atlanta PRIDE
Free!
IM A GIVER ARE U?

Jeff Cleghorn
military education initiative

Reichen Lehmkuhl
the amazing race
sat 3pm coca-cola cool zone

Coors · Coca-Cola · Delta · MONTEVINA · Royal Automotive Group · CHASE · southern voice · BELLSOUTH

www.atlantapride.org

NEW SATURN 2004 ION

INCLUDES
Automatic Transmission
Front Wheel Drive
Power Locks
2.2L 4Cyl DOHC 16V Engine
Compact Disc
Air Conditioning
Floor Mats
Stk # 94323

Own it for
$209
A month

MSRP	$15,730
Down Payment	$0
Saturn Rebate	- $2,500
Market Value Adjust	- $295
	$12,995*

PEOPLE FIRST

Saturn of Roswell — 678-366-8188
1400 Upper Hembree Road
www.saturnofroswell.com

Saturn of Decatur — 404-248-1888
1950 Orion Drive
www.saturnofdecatur.com

Saturn of Southlake — 770-961-1119
7230 Jonesboro Road
www.saturnofsouthlake.com

Saturn of Conyers — 770-922-7474
1890 Dogwood Drive
www.saturnofconyers.com

* All rebates back to retailer. Payments with approved credit at $209 per month/72 months at 4.89%. Tax, title, registration, documentation fee not included. Offer good until 6/30/04. See a sales consultant for more details. Artwork for illustration purposes.

3rd Annual Event Feb 5 - 12, 2005
GAY CRUISE FOR OLDER MEN & THEIR ADMIRERS

7-Nite Eastern Caribbean luxury cruise w/ a great group of guys for a week of fun & friendship. Departs Ft. Lauderdale 2/5 visiting Puerto Rico, St. Maarten, Nassau, St. Thomas

All Travel by Meetings & Incentive Marketing or their affiliated companies Florida Seller of Travel License # ST39661

Toll Free 877-639-8055 Direct 954-735-8108
www.Gay-Travel-by-mim.com

Pearl Day at Six Flags, an annual fund-raiser for AIDS service organizations, celebrates its 15th anniversary this year. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

Prepping for Pride

Week of events leads up to annual festival

By VAN GOWER

THE 2004 ATLANTA PRIDE FESTIVAL officially begins June 25 in Piedmont Park, but a host of related events pack the week leading up to the big celebration.

"Rainbow: The Loudest Silent Auction on Earth," set for June 21, kicks off Pride week and raises funds for the CHRIS Rainbow Home, a transitional living program for homeless and runaway gay youth ages 17 to 21.

The auction includes a variety of items donated by local businesses, open bar and hors d'oeuvres, and entertainment by singer Chris Burke. Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin plans to send a representative to present the city's Phoenix Award to the Rainbow Home for outstanding service to the community, according to Donna Auchenbach, media and community relations director for the Rainbow Home.

All funds raised at the auction go to the Rainbow Home's 2004 operating budget, which is just over $200,000, according to Kathy Colbenson, chief executive officer of CHRIS Kids.

Melissa Carter, disc jockey on Q100 Radio's "The Bert Show," emcees for a second consecutive year and says the Rainbow Home fills a vital need for gay youth.

"It's not just a matter of giving shelter to a kid. They care about every facet of the kids' lives," Carter said.

'BOUND BY PEARLS: PEARL DAY 15,' set for June 23 at Six Flags Over Georgia, marks the 15th anniversary of an event that raises money for local and regional AIDS service organizations.

Funds are raised through the sale of strands of faux pearls prior to Pearl Day at local businesses and "Pearl Parties," as well as raffles at the parties. Attendees then wear the necklaces to Six Flags on Pearl Day to show their support for HIV groups.

"Six Flags knows our strength of numbers by how many pearls they see coming through the gate. ... We gain more strength every year," said Don Meriwether, Pearl Day lead organizer.

Pearl Day is not sponsored by Six Flags, but the event was officially recognized by the theme park for the first time in 2001. Pearl Day began in May 1989, when a small group of friends from the nightlife service industry went to Six Flags adorned with leftover Mardi Gras beads for a day of fun.

The event grew steadily and was officially held as a fund-raiser — with the partnership of AID Atlanta — for the first time in 1997.

This year's event benefits AID Atlanta and four other AIDS agencies across the Southeast: Birmingham AIDS Outreach, Chattanooga Cares AIDS Resource Center, the Community OutreachProgram of Columbus and Savannah's First City Network.

To date, the event has raised more than $46,000. Organizers hope to raise $10,000 this year, Meriwether said.

ONE DAY LATER, THE 16TH ANNUAL Gay Pride Eucharist for Human Rights features Rev. Elizabeth Kaeton, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church from Chatham, N.J. Open to people of all faiths, the Pride Eucharist follows the traditional form of the Episcopal Eucharist, including Holy Communion.

Kaeton and her partner of 28 years, Barbara Conroy, have raised six children of their own, as well as six foster children.

Kaeton hasn't begun work on her sermon but expects its core message will focus on the gay struggle for justice.

"I think what I'm going to talk about to the crowd is the way in which the gay and lesbian community as countercultural people point the way to Jesus, to the truth," she said.

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK OF JUNE 21, WABE 90.1 FM broadcasts a series of reports examining same-sex marriage during its "Morning Edition" program. The segments include interviews with gay Atlanta residents who have traveled to Massachusetts to be married, coverage of the spousal benefits controversy at the Druid Hills Golf Club, and the transition of gay equality from its activist roots during the Stonewall riots to modern same-sex family life.

"The series is great, because it's putting in context the evolution of our community from just a couple hundred people protesting in the streets to the highest political offices in the city and having clout across the board in all areas," says Dave Hayward, co-coordinator for Touching Up Our Roots: Atlanta's GLBT History Project Initiative, which produces the series with WABE.

MORE INFO

'Rainbow: The Loudest Silent Auction on Earth'
June 21, 7-10 p.m.
Park Tavern
500 10th St. NE
Tickets $35, sponsorship and host levels $150-$3,000
404-564-3430
www.chriskids.org

'Bound By Pearls: Pearl Day 15'
June 23
Six Flags Over Georgia
275 Riverside Parkway, Austell
Pearls: $5, $10
Available at Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse, AID Atlanta, Brushstrokes, Charis Books & More, Mary Mac's Tea Room, and Backstreet Atlanta and Armory gift shops
www.pearlday.com

Eucharist for Human Rights
June 24, 7:30 p.m.
All Saint's Episcopal Church
634 West Peachtree St.
404-929-0071

Same-sex marriage on WABE 90.1 FM
Week of June 21, 5-9 a.m.
678-686-0321
www.wabe.org

notes

The Big Gay Supper Club, organized by **Rande Head** and **Matt Ruppert** meets June 22 for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a four-course meal. Cocktails at 7 p.m. and supper at 8:30 p.m. at Dish, 870 North Highland Ave. Reservations 404-724-0105, biggaysupperclub@yahoo.com, www.biggaysupperclub.com

SATURDAY JUNE 19

'BOOGER' DRAG: PALS Atlanta receives 100 percent of proceeds from performers and raffles at East Point's 7th annual 'Amateur Booger Drag,' featuring drag queens and kings, at 8 p.m. in the Historic District back lot, Main Street and West Cleveland Avenue, East Point. Info: rhwjfj@yahoo.com

TUESDAY JUNE 22

FULTON FAIR: FACE, the Fulton Alliance of County Employees for Equality, hosts an information fair for gay residents featuring tables from local gay groups and the opportunity to sign up for the county's Certified Committed Relationship Registry, open to same-sex couples in Fulton. The free event takes place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the atrium of the Fulton County Government Center, 141 Pryor St. 404-730-7944

THURSDAY JUNE 24

PLANNING PARENTHOOD: Susan Barrett, Ph.D., and attorney Lori Surmay discuss 'Legal & Emotional Considerations: Issues for Current and Future Lesbian & Gay Parents,' co-sponsored by the Feminist Women's Health Center, at 7:30 p.m. at Charis Books & More, 1189 Euclid Ave. NE. 404-524-0304, www.chariscircle.org

PET PARTY: Pooches and their owners gather at Piedmont Bark's fund-raiser for the Atlanta Pride Committee that includes doggie 'H20 shots,' drinks for humans and pet photography from 6-8 p.m. at Piedmont Bark, 501 Amsterdam Ave.404-873-5400, www.piedmontbark.com

FRIDAY JUNE 25

SEXY SESSION: Sex therapist and author Dr. Virginia Erhardt facilitates the trans-inclusive 'Negotiating Erotic Experimentation' discussion about communication and negotiation in relationships at 8 p.m. at Charis Books & More, 1189 Euclid Ave. NE. 404-524-0304, www.chariscircle.org

SPIRITUALITY CALENDAR, **Page 26** COMMUNITY CALENDAR, **Page 28** OBITUARY, **Page 30**

spiritual resources

THIS WEEK

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH. June 24 16th annual Gay Pride Eucharist for Human Rights, 7:30 p.m. 634 W. Peachtree St. 404-881-0835, www.allsaintsatlanta.org, www.atlantapride.org

SAINT MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. June 24 'Celebration of Diversity' Pride dinner, 6 p.m., $15 reservations. 7 p.m. 'Celebration of Diversity' service. 781 Peachtree St. NE. 404-873-2636, www.stmarkumc.org

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ATLANTA. June 20 Pride service featuring African-American spoken word/performance ensemble Adodi Muse. 9:30 a.m. at 1911 Cliff Valley Way (off I-85 North Access Road). 404-634-5134, www.uuca.org

CATHOLIC

CATHOLIC SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. Sunday Eucharist 8:30 and 11:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri. 12:10 p.m. 48 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. SW. 404-521-1866, www.catholicshrineatlanta.org

ST. MICHAEL THE DEFENDER CATHOLIC CHURCH. Sunday mass 9:30 a.m. 1071 Delaware Ave. SE. 404-627-7212, www.stmichaelatlanta.org

EPISCOPAL

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL. Sundays 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. with Holy Communion. 634 W. Peachtree St. 404-881-0835, www.allsaintsatlanta.org
THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PHILIP. Sundays 7:45, 8:45, 9, and 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist; 1:30 p.m. Spanish Eucharist; 7 p.m. informal Eucharist. 2744 Peachtree Road NW. 404-365-1000, www.stphilipscathedral.org
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY. Sundays 8:45 and 11:15 a.m. 2089 Ponce de Leon Ave. 404-373-8338, www.epiphany.org
INTEGRITY/ATLANTA. Third Fridays 7 p.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church, Atlanta. 770-642-3183, integrityatlanta@yahoogroups.com
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH. Wednesdays 12:10 p.m.; Sundays, 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. 1790 LaVista Rd. 404-634-3336, www.stbartsatlanta.org
ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH. Sundays 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m., and 6 p.m. 435 Peachtree St. NE 404-873-7600, www.stlukesatlanta.org
ST. PATRICK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH. Sundays 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist. 4755 North Peachtree Road. 770-455-6523, www.stpat.net.

JEWISH

CONGREGATION BET HAVERIM. Fourth Fridays, vegetarian/dairy potluck dinner 6:30 p.m. All other Fridays, Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m. Central Congregation Church, 2676 Clairmont Road NE. 404-315-6446, www.congregationbethaverim.org

LUTHERAN

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH. Sundays 10:30 a.m. 1410 Ponce De Leon Ave. NE. 404-378-4243, www.stjohnsatlanta.org
ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH. Sundays 10 a.m. 3264 Northside Parkway NW. 404-237-4413, www.stlukeatlanta.org
ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH. Sundays 10:30 a.m. 2716 Mechanics Ave., Thunderbolt. 912-354-6815, www.the-friendly-church.org

METHODIST

AVONDALE PATTILLO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Sunday school 9:45-10:40 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.-noon, Adult choir Wednesdays 7:30-8:30 p.m. 3260 Covington Highway, Decatur. 404-294-4063, http://apmethodist.org
INMAN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Sundays 10:55 a.m. 404-522-9322
SAINT MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Wednesdays dinner 6:00 p.m., program 6:45 p.m.; Sundays 8:45 a.m., 11:15 a.m. 781 Peachtree St. NE. 404-873-2636, www.stmarkumc.org
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Sundays 10:45 a.m. 265 Washington Street SW. 404-659-6236

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH (MCC)

CHRIST COVENANT MCC. Sundays 11 a.m.; Wednesdays, choir practice 7 p.m. 109 Hibernia Ave. 404-373-2933, www.christcovenantmcc.org
FIRST MCC OF ATLANTA. Sundays 11 a.m.; Wednesdays, Bible study 7 p.m. 1379 Tullie Rd. 404-325-4143, www.firstmcc.com
MCC AUGUSTA. Sundays 11 a.m., 7 p.m. 311 7th Street, Augusta. 706-722-6454
OUR HOPE MCC. Sundays 11 a.m. Presbyterian Student Center, 1250 S. Lumpkin St., Athens. 706-202-3723
TRUTH CENTER MCC. Sundays 11 a.m. Meets at Georgia Citizens Coalition on Hunger facility, 9 Gammon Ave. 770-951-1380, truthcentermcc@bellsouth.net

PRESBYTERIAN

CLIFTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. Sundays 11 a.m.; Wednesdays, Bible study 7:30 p.m. 369 Connecticut Ave. 404-373-3253, cliftonchurch@mindspring.com, www.nighthospitality.net
DRUID HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. Sundays11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, young adult Bible study, 7:45 p.m. 1026 Ponce de Leon Ave. 404-875-7591, www.dhpc.org
NACOOCHEE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. Sundays 10 a.m. 260 Hwy. 255 North, Sautee-Nacooche. 706-878-2226, www.nacoocheepresbysterian.org
ORMEWOOD PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. Education 9 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Worship 11 a.m. 1071 Delaware Ave. SE, Atlanta. www.ormewoodparkpres.org. 404-627-2216

RELIGIOUS SCIENCE

DOUGLASVILLE CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE. Sundays 11 a.m. at Hampton Inn, 6371 Douglas Blvd., Douglasville. 404-290-5041, westgacrs@mindspring.com
FIRST CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE. Sundays 11 a.m. 3025 Maple Dr. NE, Buckhead. 404-233-2061
MARIETTA/KENNESAW MOUNTAIN CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE. Sundays 10:30 a.m. Wingate Inn - Magnolia Room, 750 Cobb Place Blvd., Kennesaw. 770-656-8467, revlarryhollis@hotmail.com
NORTH POINT CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE. Sundays 10:30 a.m. 100 Hannover Park Road, Suite 160. 770-552-5889, www.npcrs.org
TRINITY CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE. Sundays 11 a.m. Meets in Frazer Center, 1815 S. Ponce de Leon Ave. 404-296-6064

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

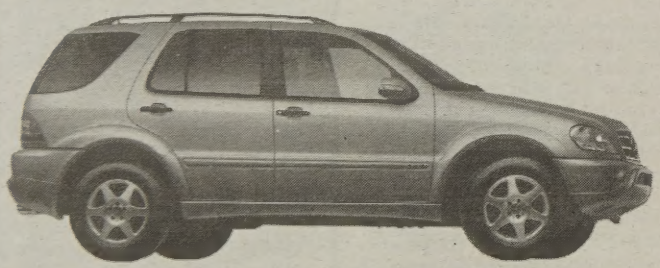
GEORGIA MOUNTAINS UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH. Sundays 11 a.m. 439 South Park Street, Dahlonega. 706 864-0661, www.gmuuc.org
MOUNTAIN LIGHT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH. Sundays 10:30 a.m. 3423 Turniptown Road, Ellijay. 706-636-4935, www.mluuc.org
NORTHWEST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION. A welcoming congregation. Sundays 10:30 a.m. 1025 Mt. Vernon Hwy. NW. 770-955-1408, www.nwuuc.org
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF AUGUSTA. Sundays 10:30 a.m. 3501 Walton Way Extension, Augusta. 706-733-7939, www.uucsra.org
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAVANNAH. Troup Square. Sundays 11 a.m. 323 Habersham Street at East Macon and East Harris, Savannah. 912-234-0980, www.jinglebellschurch.org
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ATLANTA. Sundays 9:30 a.m. 1911 Cliff Valley Way (off I-85 N Access Road). 404-634-5134, www.uuca.org
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF GWINNETT COUNTY. Sundays 11 a.m. 12 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville. 770-717-7913, www.uucg.org
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF MARIETTA. Sundays 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. 1240 Villa Rica Road. 770-528-9542, www.uucm.org
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION METRO ATLANTA NORTH. Sundays 9:45, 11:30 a.m. 11420 Crabapple Rd., Roswell. 770-992-3949, www.uuman.org
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF ATHENS. Sundays 11 a.m. 706-546-7914
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF COLUMBUS. Sundays 10:30 a.m. 1442 Double Churches Road, Columbus. 706-660-1442

Mercedes-Benz

2004 CONFIDENTIAL CLEANUP

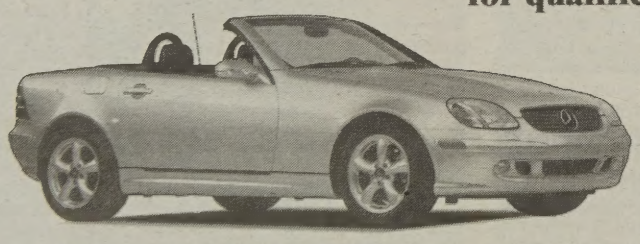
The Biggest Sales Event Of The Year!

NEW SPECIAL PRICING NEVER OFFERED BEFORE TO CLEANUP 2004 MODEL INVENTORY. RBM CANNOT ADVERTISE OR EVEN GIVE PRICES OVER THE PHONE. SPECIAL SALE PRICES ARE POSTED ON MOST VEHICLES. EXCEPTIONAL SAVINGS ON DEMONSTRATOR MODELS.



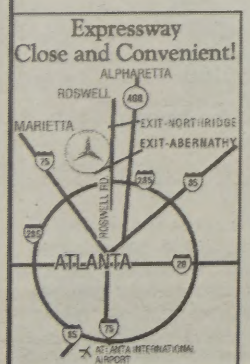
SAVE THOUSAND$

Financing as low as 1.9% on certain models for qualified buyers



CARS WILL BE SOLD ON A 1ST COME 1ST SERVE BASIS. NO DEALERS PLEASE.

Prices good while inventory lasts.



RBM OF ATLANTA

7640 Roswell Rd.
Atlanta, GA 30350
770-390-0700
(www.rbmofatlanta.com)

SHOWROOM HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY: 9AM-7PM; SATURDAY: 9AM-6PM

spiritual resources

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST. Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship 9 a.m., 11 a.m. 2676 Clairmont Rd. NE Atlanta 30329-2741. 404-633-4505, www.central-ucc.org

CHURCH OF THE SAVIOR. An open and affirming congregation. Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 10:55 a.m. 1950 Old Alabama Road, Roswell. 770-998-6789, www.cofsavior.org, www.stillspeaking.com

GOD, SELF & NEIGHBOR MINISTRIES. Sundays 1:30 p.m. Open and affirming ministry of the Virginia Highlands Church, 743 Virginia Ave. 404-881-0880

PILGRIMAGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST. Sundays 10 a.m. 3755 Sandy Plains Rd., Marietta. 770-971-0007, www.pilgrimageucc.com

UNITY

UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH. Sundays 12 p.m. 2001 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. 404-752-5030, www.unityfellowshipchurchatl.org

UNITY NORTH ATLANTA CHURCH. Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.; Sundays 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. 4255 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. 678-819-9100, www.unitynorth.org

CHRISTIAN OTHER

ALL SAINTS CHRIST'S CHURCH UNITED. Sundays, Bible study 10 a.m., Holy Communion 11 a.m. 2352 Bolton Road N.W. 404-605-7140. www.allsaintsccu.org

ANCHORED IN CHRIST MINISTRIES. Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m.; Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. 3802-A 2nd Ave., Columbus. 706-653-1488. www.anchoredinchristministries.org

ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING. A Quaker congregation. Sunday 10 a.m. Atlanta Friends Meeting house, 701 East Howard Ave., Decatur. 404-377-2474, www.quaker.org/atlanta

CIRCLE OF GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH. Feminist, all-inclusive worshipping community. Sundays 5 p.m. at ACME Lofts, 533 W. Howard Ave., Decatur. 404-624-1140, www.circleofgraceatlanta.org

CIRCLE OF LOVE FELLOWSHIP OF ATLANTA. Sundays 10 a.m.; Wednesdays, Bible study 7:30 p.m. 778 Rays Rd. Ste. 108. 770-469-6419

FAMILY OF GOD. Sundays 6:30 p.m. 1442 Double Churches Road, Columbus. 706-681-5246. http://hometown.aol.com/revem51/fogmcccolumbusgaindex.html

FORGIVING HEART CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH. Sundays 6:30 p.m.; Thursdays Bible study 7:30 p.m. meets at 1442 Double Churches Road, Columbus. 706-681-5246; mailing address: P.O. Box 8042, Columbus, GA, 31908

GENTLE SPIRIT CHRISTIAN CHURCH. Wednesdays, Bible study 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, 7 p.m. 1561 McLendon Ave. 404-522-1444, www.gentlespirit.org

NEW COVENANT CHURCH OF ATLANTA. Sundays 6 p.m. Gay-affirming Pentecostal-Charismatic church meets in Virginia-Highlands Church sanctuary. 404-881-6336, www.NewCovenantAtlanta.com

ST. BARNABAS COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH. Sundays 6:30 p.m. Last Sundays, potluck after services. 2020 Ingleside Ave. (behind Econo Lodge), Macon. 478-722-0057

VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND CHURCH. A Baptist and United Church of Christ congregation. Sundays, Christian Education 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. 743 Virginia Ave. 404-873-1355, www.vhchurch.net

SPIRITUAL OTHER

ATLANTA GAY & LESBIAN CENTER. "Spiritual & Bible Abuse Recovery" discussion and study group meets Saturdays 4 p.m. at the Center, 170 11th St. 404-347-9838, www.aglc.org

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS. Tuesdays 7 p.m. Sharing personal stories of faith and spirituality. 770-937-5035

FIRST EXISTENTIALIST CONGREGATION OF ATLANTA. Sundays, Celebration of life 11 a.m. 470 Candler Park Drive NE. 404-378-5570, www.FirstExistentialist.org

GOD'S INNER FAITH TEMPLE & SANCTUARY. Non-denominational and metaphysical. Open study and meditation Sundays 11:30 a.m., excluding first Sundays, at 1035 Green St., Roswell. 770-640-8184, gifts824@aol.com

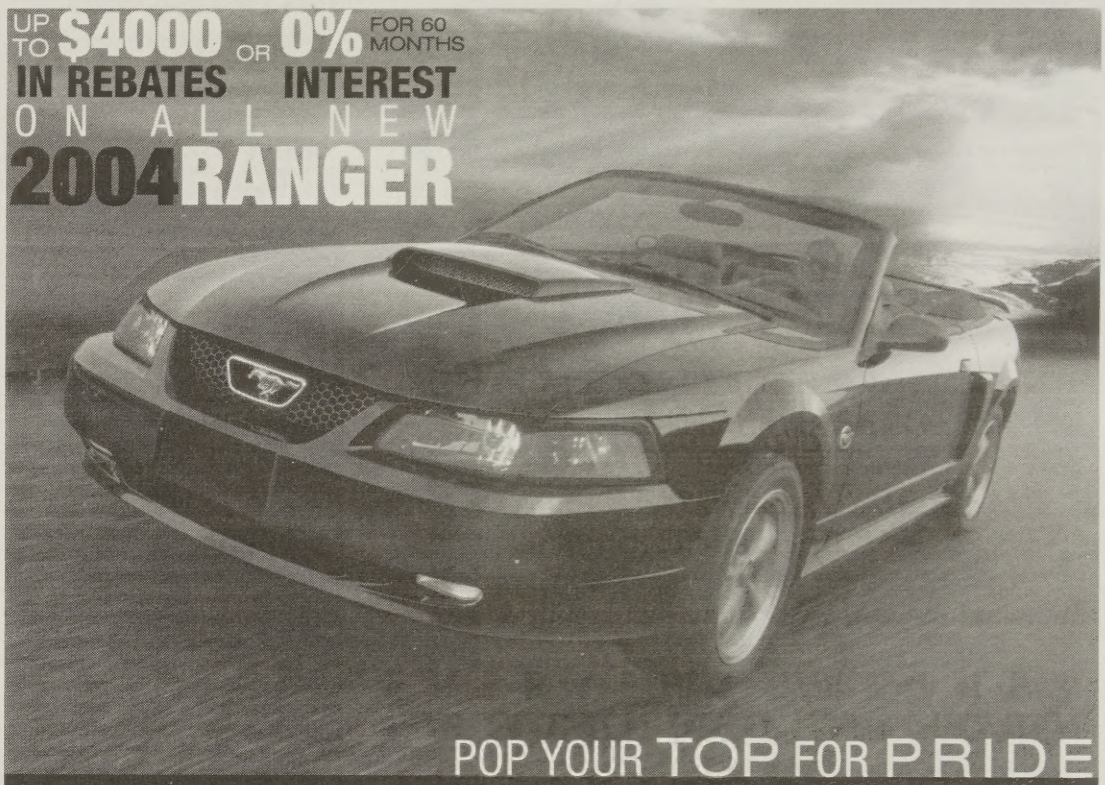
KASHI ATLANTA. Meditation and spiritual growth teaching by Jaya Devi Bhagavati, RYT. Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. at 312-C North Highland Ave. 404-688-6757, www.kashiatlanta.org

METAPHYSICAL GROUP. Mondays 7:30-9 p.m. Come meet your spiritual family. 404-250-7775

MIDTOWN SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY. Sundays 11 a.m. 404-874-1937, www.msc/atlanta.com

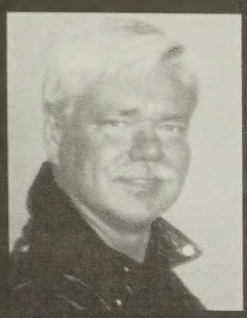
SPIRITUALITY AND WELLNESS DISCUSSION. Last Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. Led by Chaplain Lauralyn Bellamy. Phoenix & Dragon Bookstore, 5531 Roswell Rd. 404-255-5207

To add a listing, e-mail **calendar@sovo.com**, call 404-876-1819, ext. 32, or fax to 404-876-2709, attn: Van Gower. Entries should be submitted at least 14 days in advance.



POP YOUR TOP FOR PRIDE

BRING THIS COUPON IN FOR A SPECIAL $250.00 DISCOUNT
on a purchase of any new or used car, truck or SUV.
Please call Kent Curry for an appointment.
Not valid with any other offer advertised specials. Coupon valid only through Kent Curry. Expiration 06/30/04.



KENT CURRY
AT LOU SOBH FORD
1665 SCOTT BOULEVARD | DECATUR, GA 3003
MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN | MIDTOWN | INSIDE THE PERIMETER

SALES LEASING NEW AND USED

APPOINTMENTS PLEASE: 404.235.7673 | CURKENT@AOL.COM | WWW.LOUSOBHFORD.COM

community calendar

SATURDAY JUNE 19

YOUTHPRIDE. Queer youth gather for hip-hop dancing at Several Dancers Core, 133 Sycamore St. on Decatur Square, Decatur. For time: 404-378-7722, www.youthpride.org

ONGOING EVENTS

ALTLANTA QUEERS. New social and networking group forming for rock, alternative, indie culture and like-minded GLBT's. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/altlanta_queers
ASIAN PACIFIC LESBIAN BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER NETWORK. Women's and trans-women's social organization. 404-795-0680, www.aplbtn.net
ATLANTA MEN FOR ALL CULTURES. Gay men's social organization volunteers at 10:30 a.m. at Project Open Hand, 176 Ottley Drive NE. 404-350-9963, http://atlmenforallcultures.org
FAMILYPRIDE OF THE SOUTH. Support and networking group for gay parents and their children. 770-640-1915, www.familypridesouth.org
KNOW THY NEIGHBOR CLUB. Decatur to Virginia-Highlands area women's dining and socializing group. 404-273-5751.
LIFEGUARD. Bisexual and gay men discuss safer sex, communication skills, dating, intimacy and more. Free. 404-870-7748, michael.clifford@aidatlanta.org
NORTH ATLANTA OWLS. Older wiser lesbians (50 +) meet for fun and friendship. Locations and activities vary. Mfinatlanta@yahoo.com
NORTHERN TRIANGLE. GLBT's from Atlanta's northern suburbs meet for socializing and a meal at 7:30 p.m. in Roswell. www.vinbell.com/northerntriangle/
OUTWORLDERS. Gay sci-fi/fantasy/horror fan group meets for monthly Cult Sci-Fi TV night at 7 p.m. www.outworlders.info

SUNDAY JUNE 20

ONGOING EVENTS

ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS. Non-auditioned. 3:45 p.m. rehearsal at Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, 1026 Ponce de Leon Ave. NE. 770-438-5823, www.AFWCChorus.org
BLACK LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. Coming out support group. 4-6 p.m. at YouthPride, 107 North Candler Road, Decatur. 404-370-0920, www.youthpride.org
COME OUT DANCING. Weekly beginning salsa and East Coast swing lessons at 2 p.m., and Argentine tango dance lessons at 4:30 p.m. for gays at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta, 1911 Cliff Valley Way NE. Register 404-876-3950, comeoutdancing@mindspring.com
DRUMCIRCLE. DrumSista, ZAMI's performance group, offers monthly drumming classes for women of all sexual orientations and races from 3-5 p.m. at Atlanta Lesbian Cancer Initiative, 1530 DeKalb Ave., Suite A. 404-370-0920, www.zami.org
LAMBDA CAR CLUB INTERNATIONAL-DOGWOOD REGION. Gay car enthusiasts' monthly Cruise-In at 5 p.m. at Piccadilly Cafeteria, 2226 North Druid Hills Road NE. 770-901-9447, www.lcc-dogwood.org
LAMBDA GROUP. Family beyond the northern perimeter and dining-out. Time varies. 770-457-5264, lambdagroup@msn.com
OUTWORLDERS. Gay sci-fi/fantasy/horror fan group meets at 2 p.m. for monthly business meeting at Atlanta Diner, 2071 North Druid Hills Road NE. Also, group outing for a 3:30 p.m. screening of "Around the World in 80 Days" at Regal Cinemas Hollywood 24, 3265 Northeast Expressway NE at I-85. www.outworlders.info
PFLAG-ATLANTA. Monthly support group from 2:45-5 p.m. in the chorus room at First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta, 1379 Tullie Road. 770-662-6475, www.pflagatl.org
YOUTHPRIDE. Black males age 13-24 social and discussion group meets 6-8:30 p.m. at YouthPride, 107 N. Candler Road, Decatur. 404-378-7722, www.youthpride.org
ZAMI. Monthly discussion group for black lesbians with children meets 4-6 p.m. — no childcare or playspace provided — at the ZAMI office, 111 East Maple St., Decatur. 404-370-0920, www.zami.org

LIVE. WALK. PLAY.
That's Decatur!

DECATUR
RENAISSANCE
CONDOMINIUMS

GRAND OPENING!
From the $160's-$260's

Slow down. Relax. Welcome to a lifestyle that's comfortable & chocked full of charm. Decatur Renaissance is an intimate community of new condominium homes that have all the luxuries of big city living in a small town atmosphere that invites you to live, to walk..and to play!

- In Historic Downtown Decatur
- Renaissance Style Architecture
- Formal Private Gardens with Fountain and Pool
- Complete Resident Amenities Level

Sales Center Open Daily
at the corner of
East Ponce de Leon
and North Candler
404.378.8180
www.DecaturRenaissance.com

Morris & Draper Realtors
Dawson
Lane Company

Information believed to be accurate but is not warranted

MONDAY JUNE 21

ONGOING EVENTS

ATLANTA MEN FOR ALL CULTURES. Gay men's social organization meets for twice-monthly video night at 7:30 p.m. 404-892-7020, http://atlmenforallcultures.org/herbmap
DREAD GYRLZ INC. Dread Gyrlz Inc., a group for lesbians of color, meets at 8 p.m. 404-299-0030, deadgyrlz04@yahoo.com
GEORGIA STONEWALL DEMOCRATS. Monthly meeting of gay political organization for current and prospective members at 7 p.m. at Colonnade Restaurant, 1879 Cheshire Bridge Road N. www.ga-stonewalldems.org
HOTLANTA SQUARES. Gay square dancing beginner class from 7-8:30 p.m., intermediate class from 8:30-10 p.m. at First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta, 1379 Tullie Road. 770-329-3146, www.iagsdc.org/hotlanta
YOUNG AFRICAN-AMERICAN GAY OUTREACH INITIATIVE. Open drop-in social hours from 12-6 p.m. at AID Atlanta, 1438 West Peachtree St. NW, Suite 100. 404-870-7746, www.aidatlanta.org
YOUTHPRIDE. Transgenders and friends support group meets 6:30-8 p.m. at YouthPride, 107 N. Candler Road, Decatur. 404-378-7722, www.youthpride.org

TUESDAY JUNE 22

AID GWINNETT. In honor of National HIV Testing Day – which occurs June 27 – AIDGwinnett offers free Orasure and OraQuick HIV testing through June 28 at clinics in Gwinnett, Rockdale, and Newton counties. For locations and times: 678-990-6430, www.aidgwinnett.org

ONGOING EVENTS

BOY TALK. Gay men ages 18-24. 6:30-8 p.m. at YouthPride, 107 N. Candler Road, Decatur. 404-378-7722, www.youthpride.org
CHARIS CIRCLE. Weekly meeting of high school age women writers. 5-6:30 p.m. Charis Books & More, 1189 Euclid Ave. NE. 404-524-0304, www.chariscircle.org
GEORGIA DYKES ON BIKES. 7 p.m. at Cowtippers, 1600 Piedmont Ave. www.georgia.dykesonbikes.org
HOTLANTA SQUARES. Gay square dancing advanced class from 8-10 p.m. at First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta, 1379 Tullie Road. 770-329-3146, www.iagsdc.org/hotlanta
OURSONG. Rehearsal 7:15-9:30 p.m. at Oakhurst Baptist Church, 222 E. Lake Drive, Decatur. 404-542-3025, www.oursongatlanta.com
WOMYN'S GROUP. Gay women ages 18-24 watch and discuss "The L Word." 6:30-8 p.m. at YouthPride, 107 N. Candler Road, Decatur. 404-378-7722, www.youthpride.org
ZAMI. Audre Lorde reading and discussion group from 7-8:30 p.m. at the ZAMI office, 111 East Maple Street, Decatur. 404-370-0920, www.zami.org

WEDNESDAY JUNE 23

ONGOING EVENTS

ATLANTA MEN FOR ALL CULTURES. Gay men's social organization holds monthly discussion group at 7:30 p.m. 404-892-7020, http://atlmenforallcultures.org/herbmap
IN THE LIFE. Support group for gay and bisexual black men ages 18-25. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Positive Impact, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd., 3rd Floor. 404-870-7746, kevin.bynes@aidatlanta.org
TEEN GROUP. Gays ages 13-17. 6:30-8 p.m. YouthPride, 107 N. Candler Road, Decatur. 404-378-7722, www.youthpride.org
YOUNG ADULT GROUP. Gays ages 18-24. 6:30-8 p.m. YouthPride, 107 N. Candler Road, Decatur. 404-378-7722, www.youthpride.org
YOUNG MEN'S GROUP. Life issues drop-in discussion group for gay black men ages 18-30. 6:30-8 p.m. at Positive Impact, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd., 3rd Floor. 404-870-7746
YOUTHPRIDE. Drop-in hours from 4-6:30 p.m. at YouthPride, 107 N. Candler Road, Decatur. 404-378-7722, www.youthpride.org

THURSDAY JUNE 24

ONGOING EVENTS

CLITERATI. Twice-monthly gay and trans inclusive feminist open mike night meets at 8 p.m. at Tower II, 735 Ralph McGill Blvd. http://cliterationline.com
LAGENDER INC. Transgender/transsexual support group. 6-7:30 p.m. at Aniz Inc., 233 Mitchell St., Suite 200. 404-767-5644

FRIDAY JUNE 25

ONGOING EVENTS

ATLANTA FREEDOM MARCHING BAND. Weekly rehearsal from 7-9 p.m. at First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta, 1379 Tullie Road. www.afmb.org

To add a listing, e-mail calendar@sovo.com, call 404-876-1819, ext. 32, or fax to 404-876-2709, attn: Van Gower. Entries should be submitted at least 14 days in advance.

AGMC
evian
Last year we brought you seven of Atlanta's best cabaret divas in "Babes in Boyland."
Now it's time for the men!
Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus and Evian kick off Pride Week in Atlanta as they present:
Reel Men

An original multi-media variety production featuring
the music and dance of the movies' leading men:
Fred Astaire, Bing Crosby, Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra & Elvis Presley.

Plus a tribute to film's hottest reel man, James Bond 007.

June 18 & 19 at 8:00 pm
FERST CENTER FOR THE ARTS AT GA TECH
Tickets: $20, $30 & $40

Call 404-894-9600 or visit www.tickets.com

SPECIAL SOVO OFFER:
Receive 25% off when you mention *Southern Voice* (Code U) for Friday, June 18th.
Available through phone or Ferst Center orders only.

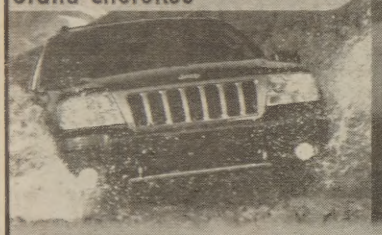
southern VOICE · Center for the Arts · Georgia Council for the Arts, Office of the Governor · tickets.com

This program is supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through appropriations of the Georgia Assembly.
The Council is a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

BECAUSE WE KNOW HOW USEFUL A COUPLE OF MORE INCHES CAN BE

Introducing the ALL NEW
JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED
2" more rear legroom • 13" more cargo room

Grand Cherokee



Sebring Convertible

DISCOUNTS AND REBATES UP TO $9000 OFF SELECTED VEHICLES

BRIAN MULLER
Business- 404.261.1851
Cell- 404.545.2265
buckheadjeep@hotmail.com

ERIC LAUTZENHISER
Business- 404.261.1851
Cell- 404.210.5867
e_lautzenhiser@msn.com

Paul Light's Buckhead Jeep-Chrysler
www.buckheadjeep.com

3126 Piedmont Road
Atlanta, GA 30305
404.261.1851

CHRYSLER
Jeep

Family Owned and Operated Since 1962

SEVANANDA
Natural Foods Co-op
"Service is Bliss" since 1974

Envision a store where you can be a member/owner,

buy fresh, organic food

get earth-friendly cleaning supplies,

and learn about staying healthy.

shop co-ops!

Organic Produce • Organic Dairy
Vegetarian Deli • Vegan Bakery
Herbs & Alternative Remedies

Open Everyday 9am-10pm
404.681.2831
467 Moreland Ave NE
www.sevananda.coop

BARK BUSTERS
HOME DOG TRAINING®

HAPPY DOGS = HAPPY FAMILIES

- Any Dog / Any Age / Any Problem
- No Harsh Methods
- Ask About Our "Life of the Dog" Guarantee

Toll Free - 1-877-280-7100
www.barkbusters.com

The successful modernization of a classic

Since 1911, The Georgian Terrace Hotel has been the venue of choice in Atlanta. Located in the famed Theatre District, the hotel features 319 recently renovated suites, The Savoy Bar & Grill, breathtaking rooftop pool and glass-enclosed penthouse level health club.

The Georgian Terrace Hotel
Atlanta's Historic Suite Hotel
659 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia
404.897.1991 • 800.651.2316 • www.thegeorgianterrace.com
BENCHMARK HOSPITALITY

HIGH LAND GIFTS for MEN

THE ART of INDULGENCE

Shaving Gear
Skin Care Products
Cigars
Cocktail Glassware and Accessories
Picnic Backpacks

"GIFTS FOR YOUR MAN"

1002 Virginia Ave.
Atlanta • GA 30306
Virginia Highland

404.817.0470

Don't Forget Father's Day

obituary

Luis Goyos, 49

Luis Goyos died May 31 of complications from Hodgkin's Lymphoma, according to friend and co-worker Dave Olson. Goyos, a longtime Atlanta resident, passed away at his family's home in Dade County, Fla. He was 49.

"We are really saddened by this loss," Olson said. "It's going to leave an empty feeling in a lot of people."

Born Feb. 23, 1955, Goyos lived in Atlanta for more than 25 years before returning home to be with his family in his final days, Olson said. Goyos is survived by his mother, Aida Goyos, father, brother, sister and several nieces and nephews.

Vista Memorial Gardens in Miami Lake, Fla., handled Goyos' funeral arrangements. He was buried following a June 2 service in Miami.

In Atlanta, Goyos worked as a credit manager at the Hilton Atlanta for more than 10 years. He is deeply missed by his co-workers, Olson said.

Goyos resided in Midtown and Stockbridge before his return to Miami, his hometown. He was an avid attendee of PALS Bingo nights and regularly participated in the Atlanta AIDS Walk.

"He really touched a lot of lives throughout the community," Olson said. "He had a natural knack for making friends. He took people at face value."

A memorial service is scheduled for June 4 at 3 p.m. at the Hilton Atlanta.

Heath Renfroe

MORE INFO

Memorial Service for Luis Goyos
Hilton Atlanta
255 Courtland Ave.
404-222-2880

Southern Voice seeks reporter

Southern Voice seeks a hard-working individual with journalism experience to fill an opening for a reporter. Excellent hard news writing, and copy-editing and communication skills are a must. Proficiency with Microsoft Word is preferred.

Send a letter explaining why you want to be a part of the Southeast's leading lesbian and gay newspaper and summarizing your skills, along with published writing samples.

Send your information (no phone calls, please) to:
Editorial Personnel
Southern Voice
1075 Zonolite Road
Suite 1-D
Atlanta, GA 30306

Fax: 404-876-2709
E-mail: editor@sovo.com

health calendar

ALCOHOL RECOVERY/SUPPORT

AL-ANON. Weekdays, 12-1 p.m. at gay-friendly Galano Club, 585 Dutch Valley Way, 404-685-9040

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. Tuesdays 7 p.m. at Georgia Baptist Medical Center's Newton House, 320 Parkway Dr. 800-651-8191

CANCER SUPPORT

ATLANTA LESBIAN CANCER INITIATIVE. Every other Tuesday, 7 p.m. Call to schedule pre-interview. 404-688-2524

HIV AND STD TESTING/TREATMENT

AID ATLANTA. Anonymous HIV testing with same-day results, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12-7 p.m. 404-870-7763, www.aidatlanta.org/testing

AIDGWINNETT. Free Orasure HIV testing. Tuesday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at AIDGwinnett, 725 Scenic Hwy., Lawrenceville. 770-962-8396, www.aidgwinnett.org

THE CENTER. HIV testing Mon. – Fri. from 5-8 p.m. 170 11th St. NE. 404-874-9890, www.aglc.org

FREE COUNSELING AND HIV-ANTIBODY TESTS. Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m.-7p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m.-1p.m. at Our Common Welfare, 4325 Memorial Drive, Suite H, Decatur. Also at 2416 Cascade Road SW every other Tuesday. 404-296-3090, 404-758-2515, www.ourcommonwelfare.com

YOUTHPRIDE. Free rapid HIV testing Wednesdays from 4-6 p.m. at YouthPride, 107 N. Candler Road, Decatur. 404-378-7722, www.youthpride.org

HIV SUPPORT/PREVENTION

AIDGWINNETT. Open support group for people living with HIV and AIDS. Tuesdays 6-7:30 p.m. at AIDGwinnett, 725 Scenic Hwy., Lawrenceville. 770-962-8396, www.aidgwinnett.org

ENTRE HISPAÑOS. For Hispanic men living with HIV. Drop in Wednesdays 4-5 p.m. at Positive Impact, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd., 3rd Floor. 404-589-9040

FIRST FEW YEARS: MANAGING HIV IN YOUR LIFE. Psychotherapy group. Pre-registration required. Thursdays 5:30-7 p.m. at Positive Impact, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd., 3rd Floor. 404-589-9040, x302

HOME BUT NOT ALONE. House-sharing for people with HIV/AIDS. 770-395-2546, www.atlantajcc.org/HBNA.htm

LIVING WELL WITH HIV. Self-improvement for long-term HIV survivors. Mondays 7-8:30 p.m. at Positive Impact, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd., 3rd Floor. Pre-registration required. 404-589-9040, x515

LONGTERM SURVIVORS. For persons infected with HIV more than five years. Tuesdays 7-8:30 p.m. at Positive Impact, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd., 3rd Floor. Pre-registration required. 404-636-6607, x3

POSITIVELY LIVING. For all people living with HIV. Drop-in Mondays 8-9:30 p.m. at Positive Impact, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd., 3rd Floor. 770-926-0005, x2.

PROJECT OPEN HAND. Volunteers needed to deliver meals to homebound people with AIDS and other critical illnesses in the Atlanta area. 404-872-2707, www.projectopenhand.org

RISK REDUCTION. HIV and STD issues discussion. Drop-in Thursdays 7-8:30 p.m. at Positive Impact, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd., 3rd Floor. 404-373-4365

RYAN WHITE FUNDS AVAILABLE. Money is available to AIDS organizations in the 20-county metro area. 404-893-0791

SUPPORT AND SPIRITUALITY GROUP. Various spiritual and religious traditions, for persons living with HIV. Interview and three-month commitment required. Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Druid Chase, 2801 Buford Highway, Suite 295 at I-85 and North Druid Hills Road. 404-876-2216, 404-325-3401

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. AIDS Education Services for Minorities. 404-753-2900, www.naesmonline.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Peachtree Hospice. 770-698-8785, www.beverlyenterprisesinc.com

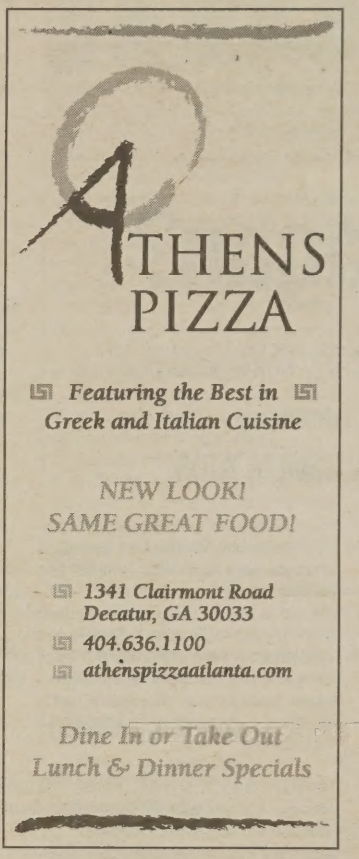
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Pediatric playroom at Grady Infectious Disease Program. 404-870-7808, www.aidatlanta.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Clerical and support volunteers needed at AID Atlanta. 404-870-7742

WOMEN'S ISSUES GROUP. Support group for all women living with HIV. Drop-in Tuesdays 5:30-7 p.m. at Positive Impact, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd., 3rd Floor. 404-589-9040, x304

WOMEN'S THERAPY GROUP. HIV and other life issues. Confidential. Tuesdays 6-7:30 p.m. at AIDS Survival Project, 139 Ralph McGill Blvd, 2nd Floor. Pre-registration required. 770-418-9446.

To add a listing, e-mail calendar@sovo.com, call 404-876-1819, ext. 32, or fax to 404-876-2709, attn. Van Gower. Please submit all listings 14 days prior to the event or group meeting. Call to confirm meeting schedules during holiday weeks.



The new standard in men's formal wear!
black tie
BY LORI
ASK ABOUT OUR RENT TO OWN POLICY!
15% DISCOUNT
on purchase when mentioning this ad.
Polo by Ralph Lauren | Joseph Abboud | Tallia uomo
6021 Sandy Springs Circle | Atlanta, GA 30328
404.252.8767 ext. 195
www.blacktiebylori.com (a division of bridals by lori)

Where Memories Are Made.
provincetown BUSINESS GUILD
Fantasea Carnival 2004
August 16-22
PROVINCETOWN
Order your Carnival V.I.P. Pass Online!
WWW.PTOWN.ORG
Call 800.761.0186 for your Free Guide to Ptown
Funded in part by the Provincetown Tourism Office

southern VOICE

America's Best Gay Weekly Since 1997*
*Vice Versa Awards for Excellence in the Gay & Lesbian Media

EDITORIAL & PRODUCTION
Executive Editor CHRIS CRAIN
Editor MATTHEW A. HENNIE EXT. 29
News Editor LAURA DOUGLAS-BROWN EXT. 19
Arts Editor MIKE FLEMING EXT. 30
Reporter CHRISTOPHER SEELY EXT. 34
Reporter RYAN LEE EXT. 36
Editorial Assistant VAN GOWER EXT. 32
Editorial Interns HEATH RENFROE, JACLYN BARBAROW EXT. 13
Staff Photographer R.O. YOUNGBLOOD EXT. 21
Correspondents BRYAN ANDERTON, LOU CHIBBARO, JOE CREA, WINNIE MCCROY, BRIAN MOYLAN, JR., KEVIN NAFF, KEN SAIN, RHONDA SMITH, STEVE WEINSTEIN, CYD ZEIGLER
Contributors MICHAEL ALVEAR, MERYL COHN, JIM FARMER, MATT FORKE, J.S. HALL, JONATHAN LERNER, PAIGE PARVIN, JOE PHILLIPS, DREW PLANT, KEVIN RIORDAN, BILL ROUNDY, JASON VICTOR SERINUS, BRIAN SUBER, ARJAN TIMMERMANS, STEVE WARREN
Illustrators ALISON BECHDEL, DAVID BRADY
Production Manager RAY BERG EXT. 16
Graphic Designers
IRMA ALLEN EXT. 17
JOEY CAROLINO EXT. 28
RONNIE GANDHOK EXT. 27
Graphics Intern KAREN KIMBALL
Webmaster ARAM VARTIAN 202-797-7000

SALES & ADMINISTRATION
General Manager MIKE KITCHENS EXT. 31
Accounting Manager JASON COHEN EXT. 14
Collections Manager DEE DERVAN EXT. 35
Circulation CHERYL SUMMERVILLE EXT. 12
Classifieds PAMELA JAFARI EXT. 15
Sales Manager BOB GUNBY EXT. 24
Assistant Sales Manager AUSTIN SNIPES EXT. 37
Senior Account Executives
CHUCK HERRHOLTZ EXT. 23
CHRISTINE SOLLY EXT. 11
DAVID STAFFORD EXT. 26
Account Executives
JOHN PRIVETTE EXT. 33
Chief Financial Officer PAM AYRES, CPA 202-797-7000
Marketing Manager RON ROMANSKI 202-797-7000
National Ad Representative
RIVENDELL MEDIA
212-242-6863 or 908-232-2021
Front Desk JACKIE LIND EXT. 10

THE EDITORIAL POSITIONS of Southern Voice are expressed in editorials and in editor's notes as determined by the paper's editors. Other opinions are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent the opinion of Southern Voice or its staff.

TO SUBMIT A LETTER OR COMMENTARY: Letters should be fewer than 400 words; commentaries should be fewer than 750 words. Submissions may be edited for content and length, and must include a name, address and phone number for verification. Send submissions by by fax to 404-876-2709 or by regular mail to the Southern Voice office, attn: Letters/Commentary.

ADDRESS: 1075 Zonolite Road, Suite 1-D Atlanta, GA 30306
PHONE: 404-876-1819
FAX: 404-876-2709
E-MAIL: editor@sovo.com
INTERNET: www.sovo.com
PUBLISHER: Window Media LLC

A Window Media Publication

© 2004, Window Media LLC
All rights reserved.

editorial

Adolf Reagan?

Is Ronald Reagan the grandfatherly figure mourned by millions or a heartless bigot who disregarded the fate of so many **gay men struck down by AIDS**?

By CHRIS CRAIN

IF YOU KNOW A GAY MAN over the age of 45, then you probably heard something last week that would truly shock the average American, straight or gay.

You most likely heard a sense of satisfaction, and maybe even outright pleasure, at the news of Ronald Reagan's death. If you heard any disappointment at all, it might well have been that the former president wasn't aware enough of his own suffering during his decade-long decline due to Alzheimer's.

In a common reaction from the over-45 set, Act Up founder Larry Kramer relates in an essay for the Advocate titled "Adolf Reagan" how he reacted when People magazine called for a quote on Reagan's death.

"'I wish he had died before he was elected' is what I told them," writes Kramer.

The outspoken gay playwright and AIDS activist goes on to compare Reagan with Hitler and blames the former president for the entirety of the AIDS epidemic, calling him a murderer. Not even wife Nancy and son Ron Reagan Jr. are spared Kramer's rage.

"I wonder what it feels like to be the son and the wife of a man responsible for over 70 million people so far becoming infected with a virus that has killed over half of us so far?" he asks. "I wonder what it felt like while [Reagan] was alive to ponder this?"

That sort of anger would be jarring enough were it not juxtaposed against days of televised images of Americans deeply saddened by Ronald Reagan's passing. The press coverage, on television and in print, focused almost entirely on the accomplishments of the Reagan years and the warm personality of the man himself.

Hour after hour of Reagan coverage on CNN and Fox News made no mention at all of the AIDS epidemic, even when the anchors on screen were gay (albeit closeted). The New York Times and the Washington Post published exhaustive profiles of the man and his presidency, again making no mention at all of the AIDS issue.

Finally last Wednesday, four days after the Reagan's death, stories began appearing on the darker side of Reagan's tenure in office, including his administration's achingly slow response to the epidemic and the president's failure to even address the issue in public for years, until tens of thousands had died and even more were known to be infected.

SO WHICH IS THE REAL REAGAN? THE strong yet grandfatherly figure adored and mourned by the American public? Or the heartless bigot who callously disregarded the fate of those struck down by AIDS, or who even welcomed their fate as just punishment for the sin of homosexuality?

As is often the case, the truth appears in the gray between the black and white portraits of the ex-president.

Some of Reagan's advisers clearly did dismiss an aggressive response to a disease that was attacking unpopular, outcast populations like homosexuals and IV drug users. Others in the Reagan White House viewed AIDS, like everything else, through a harsh ideological lens, and the virus was seen as the natural byproduct of abhorrent and immoral sexual behavior.

C. Everett Koop, the surgeon general at the time, was heard later to complain that it was these ideologues who blocked access to the president to discuss the seriousness of the situation. As on so many other issues including Iran-Contra, Reagan was poorly served by his detached management style.

Still, the former president's personal views on homosexuality and AIDS were relatively accepting for the time period and his age bracket, and clearly did not reflect the hatred alleged by Kramer and others.

Years in Hollywood apparently led to pleasant, or at least neutral, exposure to gay people, and Reagan spoke out when many others wouldn't to help defeat an anti-gay initiative in 1978, two years after his first run for the White House and two years before his second. Can anyone imagine a serious GOP candidate for president doing that today, a quarter-century later, even though gays are far more accepted?

WHAT WAS MISSING FROM THE Reagan response to AIDS — in addition to information about the seriousness of the epidemic — was compassion. George W. Bush may have coined the phrase "compassionate conservative," but he long ago betrayed that promise. Recently, it was Reagan's widow Nancy who more clearly fit the bill.

Just weeks before her husband died, Nancy Reagan publicly called for an expanded commitment to stem cell research, which shows promise in the treatment of Alzheimer's and a number of other horrific medical conditions. She did so over the objections of the anti-abortion zealots who still lionize her husband as their first great champion in the White House.

And yet where was that compassion in the 1980s for those infected with AIDS and their loved ones? It's a familiar pattern for conservatives to become compassionate — and depart from long held conservative positions — once an issue affects them in a very personal way.

After James Brady was shot in the 1981 assassination attempt on the president, the former press secretary and his wife became leading gun control advocates.

Colin Powell, one of Reagan's national security aides, declared himself a Republican but remains in favor of affirmative action because he appreciated how it benefited himself and others. And yet in 1993, the same Colin Powell led the military's opposition to President Clinton's pledge to end the ban on service by gays in the military.

It is that inability to find compassion for other people — rather than outright hate or even indifference — that is responsible for Reagan's failure on AIDS.

The raw anger still felt all these years later by many older gay men at the mere mention of Ronald Reagan's name is as much about the scope of their loss, which is unimaginable to those of us who weren't there to see it, as it is a considered judgment about the U.S. government's response to the epidemic.

Because Reagan said nothing for so long and said too little when he finally did, and because his administration failed to act more aggressively, precious time was lost in research and prevention. No amount of rosy press coverage or warm personal remembrances can remove that bloody stain from the Reagan record.

We owe it to those who died to insist that Americans not forget that failure, especially when the current "compassionate conservative" in the White House is repeating his predecessor's mistakes, listening too much to ideologues who have hijacked AIDS prevention efforts to serve their own political ends.

Chris Crain is executive editor of Southern Voice and can be reached at **ccrain@sovo.com**.

letters

Straight lobbyist welcome to fight on our behalf

To the Editors:

I am concerned that some readers of your article introducing Kris Pierce ("Gay group hires leader for ballot fight," news, June 4), may have gotten a negative impression of him if they had no further input.

Before the SoVo article hit the press, I asked Pierce in a personal conversation what a straight man from Indiana is doing here working for Georgia Equality. He stated simply that he is here to defeat the amendment on the ballot in November.

He is here with no baggage and a clean slate. He brings his political skills and a fresh, optimistic, confident outlook.

Like Cherry Spencer-Stark and our other straight allies, Pierce can be a very effective coalition-builder for us with heterosexuals in Georgia whose support we very much need.

I am here to welcome and support him, and I hope that other lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgendered people will do the same.

GARETH FENLEY
Marietta, Ga.

Editor's note: *The letter writer is a member of Georgia Stonewall Democrats.*

Anti-gay, anti-Asian column isn't funny

To the Editors:

Cyd Zeigler's op-ed "If I didn't laugh, I'd cry" (May 7) argues that gay people have lost their sense of humor, but when was it ever funny to call someone a faggot or use racial stereotypes?

Zeigler thinks we were too emotional when Details magazine printed its feature "Gay or Asian?" which stereotyped Asian Americans, working people, and gay Asian men. The Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men of New York (GAPIMNY) had no choice but to protest.

As gay Asians, we deal with anti-gay bigotry among Asian Americans everyday. This builds a climate of fear, discrimination, and violence and worse, it makes gay Asians invisible and isolated.

If we didn't forcefully respond (as we did with a 200-person protest at Details magazine's office), I know one group who would have spoken up: straight Asians who objected to being called gay.

Zeigler takes a narrow, very white, view of us. For us, challenging racism, sexism and classism, is just as important as challenging anti-gay bias.

Zeigler makes one legitimate point: There are more serious battles than around stupid racist humor.

But don't blame us if there's too much to do. Blame the racists, homophobes, and the editors of Details magazine who crossed the line in caricaturizing and denigrating us. Whether its homophobia or racism, we will continue to speak out.

GLENN D. MAGPANTAY
New York

Editor's note: *The letter writer is co-chair of the Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men of New York.*

Labels are threat, not Oprah Winfrey

To the Editors:

Topher Payne argues that people like Oprah Winfrey, not gays, are the greatest threat to traditional marriage. ("Blame Oprah for killing marriage," op-ed, June 4).

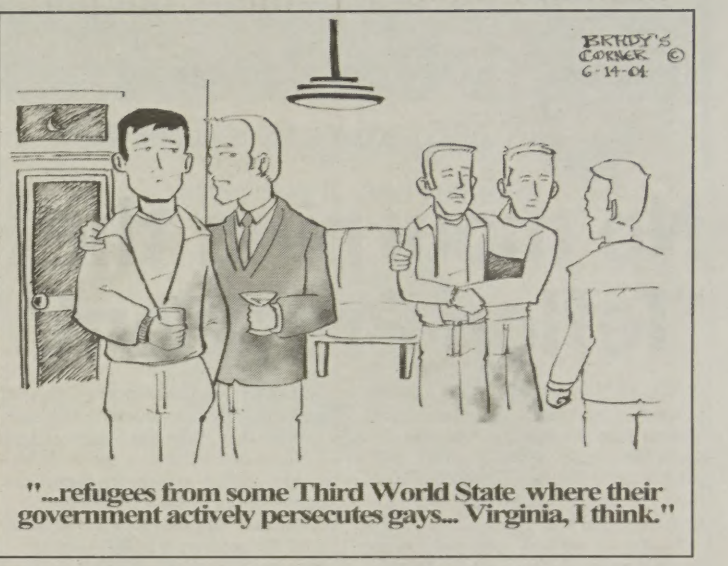
And he attacked Cher's sexual appeal, separating individuals by classifying them as "gay" and "straight" and those "living in a fantasy world." I believe that many of those who hide behind aliases and continue to segregate themselves with labels are a danger to our country's tradition of evolving to allow the Constitution to apply to all caring individuals.

Those that still exhibit pride by calling themselves "black" are correct when they say that the current marriage debate is not the same as when people could not drink out of the same water fountain or marry outside of their own race. They were visible.

When I did not feel free to love another man, I was able to see the other side of people. The hate they vocalized for those who loved a person of the same sex was not only insulting, it was almost criminal in the form of terroristic threats.

I was able to remain quiet because my skin did not give me away. I know now that remaining unspoken prevents progress and discriminatory laws cause silence of the heart. My colors weren't available to be loved, and I couldn't be true to those I cared about the most.

AARON M. BUDSOCK
Atlanta


BRADY'S CORNER ©
6-14-04
"...refugees from some Third World State where their government actively persecutes gays... Virginia, I think."

Reagan no 'communicator' on the issue of AIDS

To the Editors:

Ronald Reagan: the great communicator? Bullpucky! He couldn't even utter the word "AIDS."

He was more Hitler than hero, and certainly not a champion of the average American.

Too bad Reagan didn't maintain his mental faculties so he could realize what a screw-up his vice president would be as president and Bush's son after him, how AIDS now ravages the entire planet, and how a left-leaning liberal with a libido for fat chicks balanced his right-wing budget and brought some semblance of peace and normalcy to America in eight short years in office.

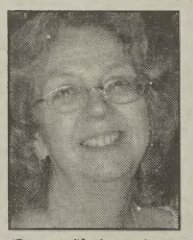
LEE A. SCHOENBART
La Jolla, Calif.

THE Q

Questions about what's going on in your world

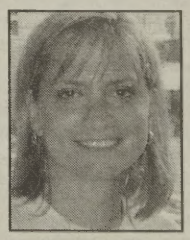
Interviews and photos by Heath Renfroe

Is Ronald Reagan's record on gay and AIDS issues relevant today?



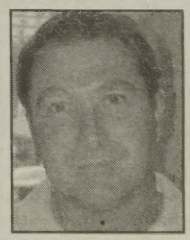
'For every life that we lost, lives were changed. That affected our whole community. Will we ever recover from those losses? Of course we won't. Will we move on? Of course, but no thanks to Ronald Reagan.'

Linda Bryant, 56
Decatur



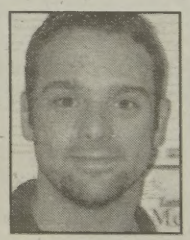
'He did some great things, but I can't look at this so one dimensionally. Because I am a member of the gay community, I can't ignore the fact that he wouldn't address the AIDS issue. It shows you that no politician can carry the weight of every community.'

Melissa Carter, 34
Dunwoody



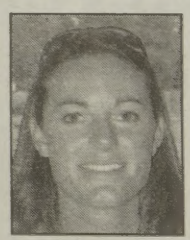
'He avoided the issues forever. Ronald Reagan wouldn't admit that we had a problem with AIDS. He had very little policies because he wouldn't address the issues.'

Steve Crow, 46
Gainesville



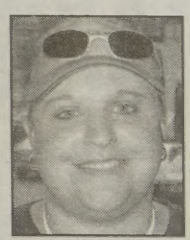
'I still think it has its effect today. I think that when the issue of AIDS came about, it should have been addressed. Now we are suffering the repercussions.'

Brandon Deyette, 24
Decatur



'I think that he could have done more with the AIDS issue, but he had higher priorities at the time. However, the fact that he had higher priorities doesn't excuse the fact that he did nothing about AIDS.'

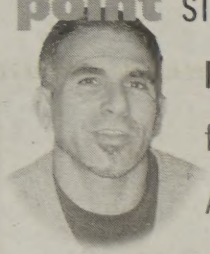
Kerrie Hall, 26
Alpharetta



'Back in the '80s, for a Republican to come out and say anything about gay issues was taboo. So, he didn't address it. Not a lot of people knew the facts about AIDS because he didn't talk about it.'

Misty Campbell, 29
Alpharetta

point STEVE WEINSTEIN



Reagan will go down as responsible for more deaths than Hitler *and* Stalin. AIDS inaction is his permanent shame.

No mourning the 'Teflon President'

PLATO WROTE A FAMOUS DIALOGUE called the "Ion," in which Socrates tricks an actor into "discovering" that his real talent lies in being a great leader. The point is that actors are malleable to their roles and come to believe that their scripts are real life.

In 1980, almost 2,500 years later, we got the final proof of Plato's thesis: Ronald Reagan. When a reporter asked him what he would do as the newly elected governor of California, Reagan replied, "I don't know. I've never played a governor."

By now, everyone knows about Reagan's fabled detachment. But this isn't about his accomplishments or failures in foreign policy or fiscal prudence.

When the dust has settled and the long eye of history is cast back on the Reagan administration, this man will be considered the worst mass murderer in history — worse than Hitler and Stalin combined.

The reason for this, of course, is his criminal failure to make the hard decisions early on in the AIDS epidemic.

Compare AIDS to Legionnaire's Disease, to the Tylenol scare or to SARS. Each of those received millions of dollars and the full service of the federal government. They were treated as national crises. Now compare that to the complete reluctance of the Reagan administration to tackle the AIDS epidemic, which began simultaneously with that president's fabled "morning in America."

Many of Reagan's defenders are arguing that the government did, indeed, pour resources into the epidemic. The real history of Reagan's hands-off policy is told in Randy Shilts' landmark book "And the Band Played On." Or read Larry Kramer's play "The Normal Heart."

They tell the same heartbreaking story of scientists who tried, time and time again, to induce the federal government to fund studies, prevention programs and treatment.

IT CERTAINLY DIDN'T HELP THAT THE disease first struck gay men — and soon thereafter, Haitian immigrants.

I have no doubt that Patti Davis, Reagan's daughter, is absolutely correct that he and Nancy had no problem accepting gay men. Anyone who spent his career as a Hollywood actor in the 1930s and '40s obviously had to deal with this issue.

Did Reagan utter the words attributed to him in the CBS documentary movie (which, thanks to pressure from Reagan apologists, moved to Showtime) — that AIDS was God's condemnation of gay sex? We'll never know. His authorized biography, "Dutch" by Edmund Morris, suggests so. But his inaction certainly points that way.

What his daughter — and other apologists — don't seem to understand is that's what makes so immoral his inaction in the face of what would turn out to be the single greatest crisis of his administration.

What should have been a disease as limited as SARS ended up being the worst pandemic in history. Hundreds of millions will have died because of his inaction.

BUT WHAT ABOUT OUR GAY LEADERS? Here is our real shame.

The Human Rights Campaign, rather than excoriating the former president for his criminal lack of response to what remains the single most important issue facing gay men today, sends out a message praising him for opposing a statewide referendum in 1978. This is laughable in the extreme.

But I reserve special opprobrium for the Log Cabin Republicans, who have sent out a message praising Reagan.

Patrick Guerriero, who heads LCR, is probably too young to remember the worst of the epidemic. Perhaps he has never held a friend's hand while listening to the man's death rattle. Perhaps he has never awoken in the middle of the night to clean his lover's feces and sweat and blood from the sheets.

But that doesn't absolve him from his craven response to Reagan's death, calling him "one of our nation's greatest presidents." This is criminal and a complete rejection of his members' most basic interests.

The AIDS pandemic we face today could have been avoided if President Reagan had only had an audience with Koop. If he had devoted resources to fighting the disease. If he had swallowed his distaste for frank sexual talk and sanctioned safe-sex prevention materials.

As a president, Reagan made a great actor. It would be funny if it weren't so terribly, terribly sad.

@ **Steve Weinstein** is editor of the New York Blade, a sister publication of this paper. He can be reached at **sweinstein@nyblade.com**.

counterpoint CYD ZEIGLER JR.

The **greatest president** of my lifetime deserves a little bit more respect from gay activists, even on the AIDS issue.

A bum rap for Reagan

THE SEMINAL POINT OF RONALD Reagan's presidency for me was the Challenger disaster. I was in seventh grade then, when I heard that the Challenger had blown up. It was the first time in my life that I felt true loss.

That night, I watched as Reagan's simple words and heartfelt emotion let me know that the space program would go on, and he reminded me what it was to be an American.

Since that day, I have been one of Reagan's fiercest admirers. He always stood for what was good and just in the world.

When he wanted to bring down Communism, he stood at the Berlin Wall and demanded it be torn down. When air-traffic controllers wanted to go on strike, he gave them a permanent leave of absence. When Americans were killed by Libyan-supported terrorists in Germany, he bombed Tripoli.

Despite the best efforts by a handful of gay detractors, Ronald Reagan's legacy will be that of one of the great leaders of the last century.

Keeping regular hours, taking afternoon naps, eating jelly beans and joking with Tip O'Neil after a day of debate, Reagan brought down the "Evil Empire," restored hope in America and got the government out of the lives of the people like it hadn't been since before the New Deal.

All of this was done, in stark contrast to the politics of today, with grace, style and personal fortitude. It was that example of his fortitude that helped me come out.

Like the millions of others who have ultimately told their parents that they're gay, it took all the strength and conviction I could muster. That strength came from Reagan.

Like no president we have had since, nor any of my lifetime, Reagan offered a legacy of leadership that the people could respect.

A LOT OF GAY ACTIVISTS NOW ARE trying to tear down that legacy because they say he didn't supply enough funding to AIDS research until well into his second term. They fuss and moan that he didn't publicly say the word "AIDS" until 1985.

Larry Kramer has likened him to Adolf Hitler. Just ask someone from former East Germany what they think of that analogy.

What these revisionist historians fail to mention is that the term AIDS was only first used in 1982 and wasn't even in the lexicon of the general public until 1984. They don't mention Reagan's good friend Rock Hudson, who died from AIDS, and how torn he was by it.

They ignore Reagan's FDA reform that succeeded in getting AIDS drugs to market faster, that private drug research flourished under his administration, and that these two things have saved lives.

They forget that it was gay activists who went out of their way to say it wasn't a "gay disease." And they certainly don't mention that, like a true gentleman, he realized his mistake and tried to make good on it with an appearance in an AIDS public service announcement in 1990.

The response has been disheartening.

THE OUTPOURING FROM MY GAY peers has been hateful, distasteful and bitter. They wrongly blame him for killing the people who died from AIDS since the '80s.

In typical fashion, they ignore the fact that the Democrat-controlled Congress offered no more funding than Reagan's administration. Just as they're willing to overlook Kerry's attack on gay marriage and bury Bush for his, their hypocrisy in the treatment of Reagan's memory stands glaring.

Dancing on graves is a terrible business. On Saturday, I got a call from a friend celebrating the death of Reagan. I felt for a moment ashamed to be gay. I hadn't felt that since the Clinton administration.

Reagan believed that there was a hero in all of us. Whether black, white, gay, straight, male or female, he aimed at inspiring the best from us.

That most gay people will remember Reagan with hatred and disrespect speaks more of where our movement is headed than of the great man at the receiving end of it.

@ **Cyd Zeigler Jr.** is associate editor of the New York Blade, a publication affiliated with this newspaper. He can be reached at **czeigler@nyblade.com**.

LOCAL NEWS • NATIONAL NEWS • ENTERTAINMENT

one half million readers
every week...and counting.
new york Blade
washington Blade
southern VOICE
houston VOICE
express south florida
david
Be seen. Be heard. Our publications combined will target and reach over half a MILLION readers each and every week.
We can offer you a local gay and lesbian market like no one else. From New York to South Florida, DC to Houston and all of Atlanta,
let us focus your message to reach one of the largest growing group of consumers in the nation. Our readers can be your customers.
EVERY WEEK • JUST FOR YOU!
Call 202.797.7000 X244 or Email sguerrini@window-media.com for Advertising Opportunities and Details

viewpoint MARA KEISLING

Transgender rights should be included in workplace protection legislation even if it means losing a handful of sponsors.

Time for ENDA to be changed

IT IS AN UNFORTUNATE FACT OF LIFE that there are those in Washington who oppose civil rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people, and we need to educate them or advocate around them.

Regrettably, it is also true that instead of focusing on winning over those who oppose us outright, the National Center for Transgender Equality, like other transgender groups and our progressive allies, has had to spend far too much energy fighting, negotiating, cajoling and even begging our friends — some in Congress and even some in the LGBT movement — to let transgendered people into the Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

As currently written, ENDA would protect employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation but not on gender identity or expression.

We have too often heard from our friends that they support us, and that if it were up to them, we'd be in ENDA. But they always point to someone else who doesn't want us in: Congress, the lead sponsors, moderate Republicans, moderate Democrats, the Human Rights Campaign, the Log Cabin Republicans.

For more than 10 years we've been told that same story. Whether they see themselves as gatekeepers or not, by presenting transgender inclusion in ENDA as desirable but negotiable, lead sponsors of ENDA and even LGBT gatekeepers have thus far kept us out of the bill.

We have been told *ad nauseum* that adding gender identity and expression would slow ENDA down. But it is unclear how transgendered people could really slow it down, since it's been at a standstill for years now.

WOULD WE LOSE A HANDFUL OF sponsors at first? Of course. But a united LGBT movement could win them back long before Congress is actually ready to pass the bill.

Why not take the next few years, when ENDA will be mired in an LGBT-hostile Congress, and educate our legislators about sexual orientation and gender identity and expression together.

Since ENDA was first introduced in 1994, much has changed in this country and in the political landscape. Throughout the U.S., transgender civil rights protections have expanded at a rapid rate.

While the percentage of the population that lives in a place with sexual orientation protections has been relatively stagnant at 45 percent for several years, the equivalent percentage for transgender protections has grown from 5 percent to 25 percent in just the last four years.

And when we include favorable court and administrative rulings in five states, the percentage with transgender protections reaches 35 percent. Even in Covington, Ky., last year, a transgender inclusive anti-discrimination bill passed 5-0. No one can claim this is fringe stuff anymore.

Similarly, support for transgender rights is approaching unanimity among gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people. A recent survey conducted for the Human Rights Campaign showed that 85 percent of gay, lesbian and bisexual people surveyed support transgender-inclusion in ENDA.

In the same survey, 70 percent support inclusion even if it means bill passage could be delayed. These are polling numbers that any civil rights effort would love to have.

IN 2003, 28 NATIONAL AND 40 STATE AND regional LGBT organizations communicated to ENDA's lead sponsors in Congress that they were united behind inclusion of transgender rights in ENDA.

This included the most influential LGBT federal lobbying group, the Human Rights Campaign, which also began lobbying for transgender inclusion in ENDA while also continuing to support a non-inclusive ENDA.

Not surprisingly, this nuanced position has proven to be an ineffective negotiating stance. Why would Congress give LGBT people what they want when our leading voice in Washington tells them we will accept less?

HRC has communicated to us that its board will make a decision in August on whether to support only a fully inclusive bill. Frankly though, there is hardly a choice left to make for LGBT organizations: They can either recognize the shift that has occurred in the past decade by supporting *only* an inclusive ENDA or they can continue to hold a position that keeps "options" open and transgendered people out.

Regardless of whether it made sense to exclude transgender people from ENDA in 1994, it certainly doesn't make sense now.

Mara Keisling is executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality and can be reached at **MKeisling@NCTEquality.org**.

What's better than a great hotel? Free* gas to help get you there!

Hilton Head from $63.95 | Myrtle Beach from $49.95 | Savannah from $49.95

Book now and we'll give you up to $30 back towards a free tank of gas!

1-800-45-HOTELS

hotels.com
BEST PRICES. BEST PLACES. GUARANTEED.

No purchase necessary. Ends 7/13/04. *Restrictions apply - see rules for details.

sound off!

Editors' note: The following comments about the gay issues of the day or stories published in Southern Voice were made by readers online at **www.sovo.com** or by telephone at **1-800-485-6907.**

The Issue: "Gay group hires leader for ballot fight" (news, June 4)

Georgia Equality hires a white heterosexual male who has no experience with lesbian and gay issues. It's no wonder SR 595 passed; we're sleeping with enemy. Two words for Georgia Equality: You're fired!

The Issue: "Where's Shirley?" (editorial by Matthew A. Hennie, June 11)

Did it occur to you that the mayor's aide, Luz Borrero, might have considered the fact she is a lesbian to be a personal matter?

Shirley Franklin is the mayor of Atlanta, not Gay Atlanta! I am a gay white male, partnered 25 years, and I am active in the community. I am proud to have Shirley Franklin as the mayor. She is ethical, honest, inclusive and has displayed great leadership skills. The mayor is not elected to serve just our segment of the public.

Excuses, excuses, excuses. Every gay man knows that you find time for the "important" parties and events, and you have a long list of excuses for why you didn't attend the others — none of them true, but all quite believable. I imagine it's true that the mayor can't attend every event of her constituencies. But the Human Rights Campaign dinner and the annual Pride Festival aren't just any events; they are our most visible and important events. I believe Shirley Franklin's campaign slogan was "I will do you proud!" Thank you Southern Voice for having the courage to say the mayor has "no clothes." It's a shame our gay community "leaders" still refuse to look. Words got our votes the first time, but only actions will suffice this time around.

The Issue: "Reagan's death renews debate over AIDS response" (news, June 11)

I have had it with this ridiculous canonization of Ronald Reagan by the media! He was not loved by all. He was an elitist, racist, homophobe whose policies led to the agonizing deaths of thousands from AIDS. Reagan had a long, slow, agonizing, miserable death. There truly is a God!

Why blame Reagan for AIDS? He didn't spread it; those who choose to have anal sex spread the disease. People need to take responsibility for their own actions and stop blaming others. Controlling your own behavior is the best way to stop a contagious disease. Be safe or be sorry.

So if Reagan is responsible for AIDS, why are gay men still contracting it at alarming rates? Do you think that Reagan's ghost is putting gay men under a spell and making them have unsafe sex? Regardless of anything that he or anyone else could have done, gay men are horn dogs and are going to have sex at any price. I am a gay man who lived through the '80s and have had unsafe sex. I am not HIV-positive but if I do get it, I'm not going to blame Reagan, Bush, God, or the person who gave it to me. I have no one to blame but myself!

Death is too good a fate for a man who let so many of our community die in pain and anguish while he smiled through it all.

The Issue: "Open letter to my best friend" (op-ed by Matt Foreman, June 11)

Thank you Matt Foreman for such a poignant and on-target commentary on how the inaction and reaction of the Reagan administration directly affected our own personal lives and communities. It's important for us to speak up, even if it might not be what some want to hear.

The Issue: "Reagan revisionism" (Action Alert, June 11)

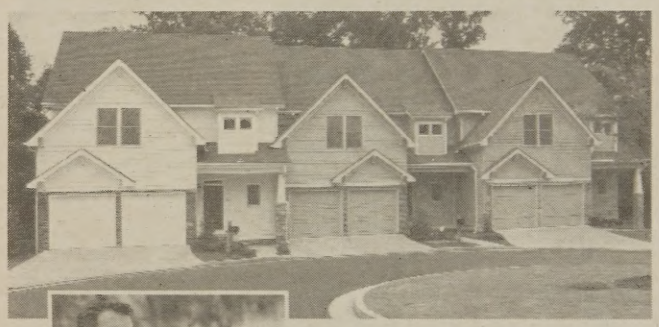
I realize Ronald Reagan didn't do for the gay community what he did for accelerating the end of the Cold War, but perhaps I'm splitting hairs. Reagan was a decent man and an important leader at a time when our country needed optimism. It seems to some gays, the only litmus test is how our leaders approach gay issues. With that measure, Bill Clinton is the only president in history to make any stand whatsoever. While that's fine, the president is about more than any one issue.

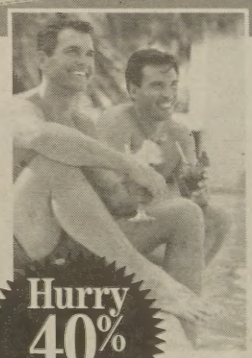
The Issue: "Spiritual conference targets those 'wounded' by churches (news, June 11)

I thank God that after much prayer and desire, God is sending a fresh awakening to the body of Christ not so much of "supernatural manifestations" but of His all inclusive love. God is raising up end time prophets with a word of release to confront the "religious dogma" that has bound gay and lesbian people for to long. I thank God that the walls of exclusion and shame that many have heaped on my fellow brothers and sisters is about to be removed.

Named
"Townhome of the Week"
By AJC Homefinder March 14, 2004

New Craftsman Style Townhomes





Hurry 40% Sold

McNair and Company's Quality Finish
- 2-car Garages
- Back Yards • Fireplaces
- Hardwood Floors
- Granite Countertops
- Stainless Steel Appliances
- Sparkling Swimming Pool
- Basements Available

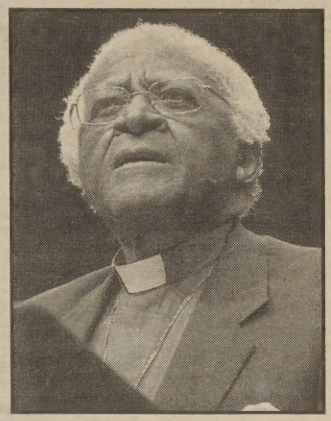
LOW DEKALB COUNTY TAXES

VILLAGE CREEK LANDING
Low $200's
AWARD WINNING DECORATED MODEL!
Sales Center Open Daily
404-622-2755
East Atlanta Village
www.mcnairandcompany.com
MORRIS & RAPER REALTORS
McNair and Company©

Directions: In Popular East Atlanta - Moreland Ave. South to Village Creek Landing and follow signs to entrance

★★★★★
BUCKHEAD grand
A FIVE STAR CONDOMINIUM
REGISTER TO BECOME A PREMIERE PURCHASER AT
BUCKHEADGRAND.COM
36 STORIES OF INSPIRATION
PREMIER PURCHASER AND VIP APPOINTMENTS NOW UNDERWAY. PLEASE CALL TO RESERVE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY.
One-, Two-, Three-bedroom and Penthouse Condominium Homes, Within Walking Distance of Phipps Plaza, the Ritz-Carlton Buckhead and Lenox Square. From the $190s to over $1 Million.
Occupancy Spring 2004.
404.816.4511
COLDWELL BANKER
THE CONDO STORE
Julian LeCraw & Co., LLC

on the record



"Why would a person choose a way of life that exposes them to so much suffering?"

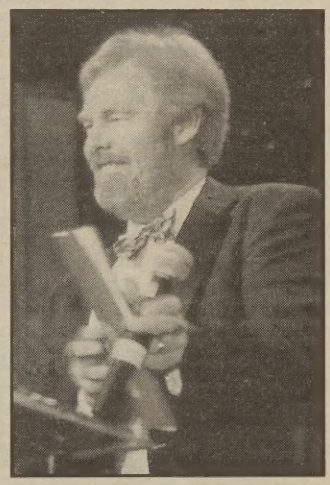
*South African Archbishop **Desmond Tutu**, former winner of the Pulitzer Peace Prize, saying he equates discrimination against blacks and gays and disagrees with other Anglican bishops in Africa who oppose the appointment of an openly gay bishop in the U.S. Episcopal Church (Associated Press, June 9)*

"If I were to come up against this again, I would have done the same thing. I know that I can't make a determination based on sex, race or whatever in my office. I can't do that."

Victoria Dunlap, clerk for Sandoval County, N.M., near Albuquerque, defending her decision in February to issue marriage licenses to 66 gay couples before being ordered by a judge to stop (Associated Press, June 15)

"There's not a deep sense of loss in the gay community on the whole. Gay people weren't happy with his presidency."

Gay Congressman Barney Frank (D-Mass.), on the death of Ronald Reagan (The Hill, June 10)



"Does that mean no reporter asked Reagan about AIDS in the 1984 presidential debates? And that every interview President Reagan granted to a national or local media outlet failed to solicit Reagan's opinions on AIDS until 1985?"

***Brent Bozell**, president of the conservative Media Research Center, asking why gay activists upset that Ronald Reagan did not discuss AIDS publicly until asked at a 1985 press conference are not also upset with the media for not asking him about the disease before then (Townhall.com, June 16)*

"What I remember about those cases is that whenever a gay man was killed, he was killed by one of his own. One deviant taking out another."

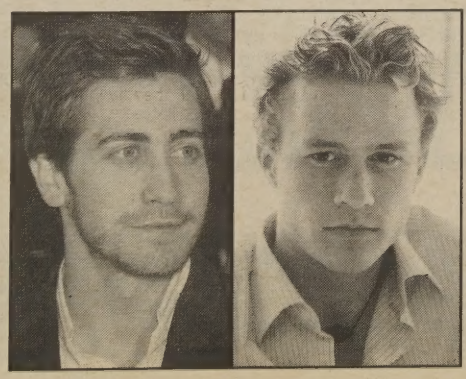
Columnist Leighton Levy, upset about criticism from Amnesty International over the murder of Jamaica's most prominent gay activist (Jamaica Star, June 11)

"As bad as the disgraceful abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq has been for our country and humankind in general, it was a blessing in disguise for the LGBT community."

Gay columnist Steve Charing, in a commentary entitled, "America Shrugs as Gays Marry in Massachusetts," arguing he was pleased that the gay nuptials were overshadowed in the news by the torture of Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib (Baltimore Outloud, May issue)

"Gay people have made heroic contributions and sacrifices battling against AIDS. We have deep commitment, expertise, and leadership skills; yet gay representation on PACHA and elsewhere in HHS remains deficient and declining — why?"

James Driscoll, a gay Republican member of the President's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, at the end of his appointment, which was not renewed by the White House (Open letter to PACHA co-chairs, June 13)



"We were talking about the kissing in the movie just recently. Clearly, it's pretty challenging material, but Ang said two men herding sheep was far more sexual than two men having sex on screen."

*Actor **Jake Gyllenhaal**, on why gay director Ang Lee may cut a kissing scene Gyllenhaal has with actor **Heath Ledger** in their upcoming Western "Brokeback Mountain"; Gyllenhaal did confess to several gay crushes, however (Asian News International, June 4)*

action! alert

GEICO corrects gaffe

Insurance provider softens stance on married gay couples

By CHRISTOPHER SEELY

Officials with GEICO Direct, the insurance provider known by its green gecko mascot, clarified the company's policy on same-sex couples this week.

AFTER COMPLAINTS FROM A GAY legal group, insurance provider GEICO Direct said this week it would reverse a decision made earlier this month to deny a married gay couple in New York the same joint coverage offered to married straight couples.

GEICO, the Government Employees Insurance Company recognizable by its green gecko mascot, will extend spousal automobile coverage to the husband of Thomas Hronrich, according to Christine Tasher, a spokesperson for GEICO.

"We are processing the change," Tasher said in a written statement issued June 16. "The papers are going out in the mail in the morning, and we spoke to the policyholder this afternoon."

Lambda Legal, the gay legal organization that approached GEICO on June 14 to represent Hronrich and his partner and to pursue spousal rights for all gay couples at GEICO, had not received notification from GEICO concerning the policy change at press time Wednesday.

"We commend GEICO in respecting the Hronrich's marriage, but we still need to review their statement to determine if it will respect marriage for all similarly situated same-sex couples," said Alfonso David, staff attorney for Lambda Legal.

GEICO should have initially accepted the Canadian marriage license issued to the couple when they asked in May, David said.

"The law in New York is a recognition law and it is pretty clear that if you are married in a jurisdiction where gay marriage is legal, it must be respected in New York," David said.

New York Attorney General Elliot Spitzer gave credence to that argument in a March opinion, stating that New York law recognizes gay marriages legally performed in other jurisdictions.

Lambda Legal set a deadline of June 28 for GEICO to change Hronrich's policy, as well as direct employees to offer matrimonial policies to same-sex couples in New York with marriage licenses from Canada or Massachusetts.

GEICO's policy includes gay couples, according to a statement issued by the company on Wednesday.

"If the individuals are legally married and their resident state recognizes that marriage as valid, then GEICO's policy is to treat the couple as married," the statement said.

EARLIER THIS MONTH, GEICO TREATED two gay couples differently. The company denied spousal rates and coverage to Hronrich and his husband, who asked to remain anonymous. But another same-sex couple married in Canada and residing in New York, Martin and Andrew Farach-Colton, received policies and benefits similar to those granted to straight, married couples.

Customer service representatives with GEICO provided the two couples with mixed messages when they initially asked about spousal coverage in May, David said. Martin and Andrew Farach-Colton had to submit Spitzer's legal opinion at least five times before GEICO expanded their coverage, David said.

Lambda has not received complaints about insurance companies from gay couples married in Massachusetts who reside in another state, he said.

As a result of strict insurance regulations in the state of Massachusetts, several large providers do not offer auto insurance in the state, including GEICO, Allstate and State Farm Insurance.

ALLSTATE AND STATE FARM — TWO of the largest auto insurers in the nation — both comply with applicable state laws, according to company officials.

"We would follow the laws of the jurisdictions in which they live," said Phil Supple, a State Farm spokesperson.

State Farm is in the process of reviewing the impact of same-sex marriage laws on the company's policies, Supple said.

Allstate is not reviewing policies at this time, said Laura Margolis, a company spokesperson.

ACTION! INFO

GEICO Direct
One GEICO Plaza
Washington, DC 20076
1-800-824-5404
www.geico.com

Allstate
www.allstate.com

State Farm Insurance
www.statefarm.com

ABOUT ACTION ALERT: Action Alert is a Forum section feature that informs readers of issues for response and lobbying. Send suggestions and comments to editor@sovo.com.

Want Paradise?
Try A Water Garden
Imagine a soothing and relaxing pond, stream, and/or waterfall with crystal clear water that requires very little maintenance.
It will also increase the value of your home by thousands of dollars.
To receive a special and FREE information package on the exciting lifestyle of owning a water garden call 770.935.6850 today!
Enchanted Water Gardens

SUBARU of Gwinnett/Atlanta

Driven By You

Only A

OVER

Over 300 New and Used S

LOW RATE FINANCING!

CURRENT I

Legacys, Outbacks, Impre

FINAL WEEKEND! You'

#1 SUBARU Dealer in Georgia

Here are the reasons why...

- You'll always get the best price—ALWAYS!
- We stock more new Subarus than all other Georgia Dealers combined!
- Hassle free—No pressure purchase experience.
- Superior customer satisfaction—We're #1 because we make you #1

Source Subaru of America 06/04

Monday - Saturday 9-8, Sunday 1-7

Toll Free:

1-866-715-9536

www.subaruofgwinnett.com

678

Subaru of

Available in Gwinnett
RSTOCKED!
Subarus in Stock For Immediate Delivery
INCENTIVES HELD OVER!
HUGE REBATES!
ezas, Foresters, Bajas...THOUSANDS OFF!
u'll Get the Absolute Lowest Price!
78-475-3500
of Gwinnett/Atlanta 2920 Satellite Blvd. Duluth
Boggs Rd.
Old Norcross Rd.
Exit 107
Pleasant Hill Rd.
Satellite Blvd.
Gwinnett Place Mall
Exit 104
985
316
85
285
SUBARU
of Gwinnett/Atlanta

If You Demand A Skyline View Be Prepared to Pay

(but not as much as you think)

You will be amazed that you can afford a Peachtree Road address with million dollar skyline views.
Incredible standard features include hardwood floors and granite countertops.

Million Dollar Views • Pool & Sun Deck • 24 Hour Concierge • Granite Countertops • Hardwood Floors

North View into Buckhead

Studios from $95,500
1 Bedrooms from $144,500
2 Bedrooms from $199,900
3 Bedrooms from $269,900

South View into Atlanta

Exclusive Sales & Marketing by COLDWELL BANKER

Own Your Own Piece of Peachtree

www.parklane-peachtree.com • 404.364.0888

2479 Peachtree Road at the corner of Lindbergh and Peachtree. Sales center and decorated models open M-F 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5.

Quick signs and printing
SINCE 1993

Banners and Signs

Your PRIDE Headquarters

Businesses Take
10% Off
All Pride 2004
Related Materials

Non-Profits Take
25% Off
All Pride 2004
Related Materials

404-872-5492

1950 Cheshire Bridge Road • Midtown • info@qsandp.com

a member of the SHADOW GRAFIX family

MEN on Sale!
SAVE EVEN MORE THAN OUR USUAL 30%-60% OFF
ON THE LATEST casual to dressy MEN'S SANDALS, SHOES and BOOTS FROM THE HOTTEST LABELS!

SHOEMAKERS' WAREHOUSE®
your Sole Searching stops HERE!

in Amsterdam Walk 500A Amsterdam Ave. ATLanta, ga30306
404.8819301 www.shoemakerswarehouse.com

WEDnesday thru SATurday 10-7 / SUNday 1-6

Breaking glass

New front wall at Blake's kicks off $1 million in renovations at three bars.

Page 45

TAKING IT TO THE STREET

Maurice Townes and **Patrik-Ian Polk**, creators of 'The Closet' and 'Noah's Arc,' respectively, say they decided to self-promote their made-for-television dramas, primarily about black gay men, since television networks either have not expressed interest or would wield too much power in determining their content. (Illustration by Jen Mabe)

Dramas about black gay life struggle to find network support

By WARIS BANKS

WITH ELLEN Degeneres winning Best Talk Show last month at the Daytime Emmy Awards and millions of viewers regularly tuning in to NBC's "Will & Grace, " Bravo's "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy", and Showtime's "The L Word" and "Queer as Folk," gay characters are no longer invisible on television.

Many critics praise the breakthrough, but some gay African Americans are holding their applause, claiming that their life experiences are overlooked on the big and small screens. Patrick-Ian Polk of Los Angeles and Maurice Townes of Atlanta are among those who are taking action.

"Some of my discomfort is that you never see any images of black gay men, unless he's being used as a sex object," says Townes, who plans to sell DVDs of "The Closet," a new made-for-television program about black gay men.

Townes, 41, and Kevin F. Allen are co-creators of "The Closet" and own Senwot Nella Productions, an independent film company in Atlanta.

Polk, the writer, director and creator of "Punks," a feature film released in 2001 to limited audiences about black gay men living in West Hollywood, plans to release a new made-for-television series on DVD this month titled "Noah's Arc." It focuses on the relationships between four black gay men who live in Los Angeles.

"Gay was in, as far as television goes," he says of his decision to create "Noah's Arc." "But there was really no presence for the black gay community in that movement. So I was just struck with the idea of making a show with black gay characters."

ITHACA COLLEGE professor Stephen Tropiano, author of "The Prime Time Closet: A History of Gays and Lesbians on TV," says Polk and Townes will most likely have a more difficult time getting their shows on the air than their white counterparts. Networks are concerned about garnering the attention of television advertisers, who generally want to market their products to upscale, white audiences aged 18-49, Tropiano says.

There are niche networks, such as UPN, that increasingly air programs geared toward African-American audiences, but they don't receive the major advertising dollars .

Please see **BLACK GAYS** on **Page 63**

COME BACK: More than 20 years after Wham! **George Michael** releases new CD that charms. **Page 57**

WINNING SATIRE: Funny 'Saved!' sends up a downright un-Christian attempt to convert a gay teen. **Page 53**

Atlanta Lesbian Cancer Initiative

Fourth Tuesday ATLANTA

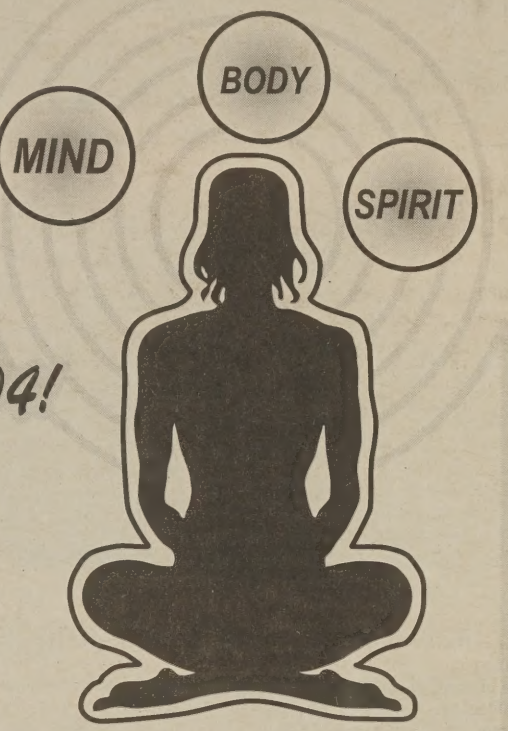
ZAMI
Atlanta's Premiere Organization for Lesbians of African Descent

WON
WOMENS OUTDOOR NETWORK

Get Moving!
Get Centered!
Get Connected!
Get Involved!

Check out our booth at Pride 2004!

Saturday, June 26 & Sunday, June 27
Booth # 05 - 07
Piedmont Park
Atlanta



Chair Massage - DrumSistas - Tarot Card Readers - Misting Machines - Wellness Info - Memberships

ATLANTA INTOWN
REAL ESTATE SERVICES
181 Tenth Street, NE • Atlanta, Georgia 30309
404-881-1810 Office • 404-881-1213 Fax

Royal SUBARU

No Games...Just Deals

Starting at $17,995

Well Equipped '04
ABS, AC, PW, PL,
Stereo CD, Roof Rack,
Fog Lights & More

OVER 100 NEW VEHICLES IN STOCK!

Stk# 40111

WE WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD!

Se habla español

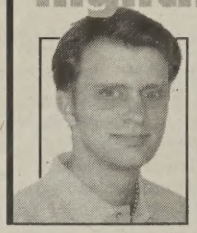
Another option from the Royal family of automobiles
Serving Atlanta for over 25 years.

Stellar PERFORMER
AWD ALL WHEEL DRIVE

www.DriveRoyal.com • 404.296.9100

Dealer retains all incentives. Plus tax, tag, title, document fee & GWA. Subject to prior sale.
Must take delivery out of dealer stock by 6/30/04

nightlife VAN GOWER



Owners of **Blake's, Blu and WETbar** announce renovations that should literally make bars **look like a million bucks.**

Change for the better

SOMETIMES CHANGE IS GOOD IN Atlanta's nightlife scene, if for no other reason than to inject new life into the city's venerable gay bars and nightclubs.

That's exactly what entertainment company ThunderFlower has in mind for Blake's on the Park, Blü Atlanta and WETbar, three prominent gay nightspots the company has owned since March.

With some physical renovations still in the planning stages, final cost figures are not yet available for changes at all three clubs. But company officials expect to spend more than $1 million for combined changes at the three properties, according to Kurt Krueger, a ThunderFlower owner.

The changes set for Blake's are a long time in coming, says LZ Granderson, vice president and marketing/development director for ThunderFlower.

"The place really hadn't been renovated in the 14 or 15 years it's been open," Granderson says. "We just felt that one of the oldest gay bars in the state deserved to look like the customers and owners care about it."

The revamping of Blake's is planned in three phases, enabling the bar to remain open throughout the process.

The first phase of renovations calls for replacing the front wall of the bar with folding glass patio doors. That project is already underway and slated for completion in time for Atlanta Pride June 25-27.

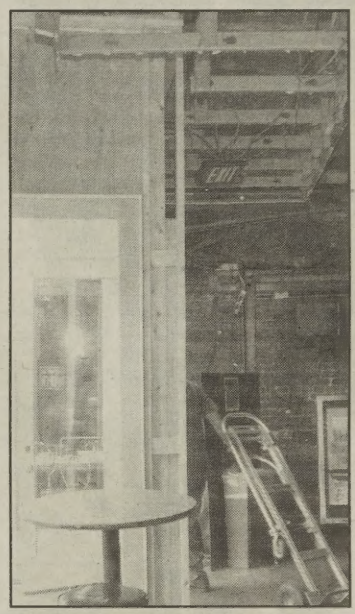
Granderson says the doors should change the feel of the former dark-paneled bar.

"You won't be able to walk out into the streets with alcohol, but there still will be the feeling of the bar being expanded because the doors will be open and there'll be a railing there, so you can talk to people that are walking by," he says.

Phase two renovations involve moving the kitchen upstairs, relocating the manager's office and adding walk-in coolers. Phase three calls for gutting the current kitchen area to add a wider staircase and more floor space. A new, higher ceiling should also contribute to a spacious vibe.

BLÜ CLOSES ITS DOORS AFTER A "Going Out With A Bang" celebration slated for the July 4th weekend to make way for a transformation into the new gay venue Ocean. The closing events feature DJs Billy Carroll and Barry Harris.

Final schematics for Ocean's décor are still in the works, but Granderson says the public won't recognize the former Blü when renovations are complete.



Renovations are underway at Blake's on the Park on 10th Street. Owners of the venue say a wall of windows will 'open up' the place in time for Pride next week. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

"When you walk in, it will be a totally different space," he says.

In addition to revamping the club's design, the owners are applying for a liquor license, which would transform the space from an alcohol-free dance club open only on Saturdays to one that serves alcohol five days a week.

The city's Neighborhood Planning Unit-E, which covers Midtown, voted in favor of the liquor license application last month. The License Review Board makes the final decision on the application, though the panel has not yet scheduled it for final review, city officials said this week.

The license could be discussed at the panel's July 6 meeting.

WETBAR, WHICH SITS ADJACENT TO Blü and serves alcohol, will also undergo upgrades of its own.

The physical changes at all three ThunderFlower bars are expected to be finished by late summer or early fall, according to Granderson.

WETbar should see a "touching up" of the rooftop patio, installation of new audio-visual equipment, a new railing and an exterior paint job, Granderson says.

CAREY
Chauffeured Services
WE'RE COMMITTED

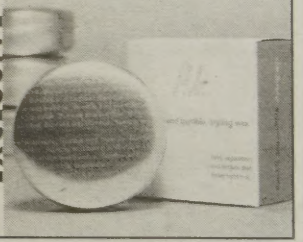
To your satisfaction and your needs.
For over 40 years, Carey Limousine has been there for all of your transportation needs.
Call us anytime.

480 CITIES | 75 COUNTRIES
THE WORLD'S PREMIER CHAUFFEURED SERVICES | 404.223.2000

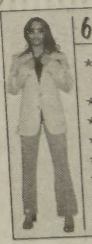
CAREY FEATURES LINCOLN VEHICLES

Hair ARCHITECTS
NEW ATTITUDES
NEW STYLES
NEW TRENDS
Georgetown Shopping Center
next to PetSuperMarket
4498 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd
Atlanta, GA 30338
770.457.1326

Bumble and bumble EXCLUSIVE SALON
styling wax



RISLE 5 CLOTHING
VINTAGE CLOTHING FOR MEN & WOMEN
All the Glamour and Glitz you need for your Gay Pride event!
404.248.1224
www.risle5.com
risle5@bellsouth.net
2094 N. Decatur Rd.
at Clairmont Rd.
Mon-Fri 12-7
Sat 11-7
Closed Sunday



60's, 70's & 80's WEAR!
* Used Levi's & Cords
* Bell Bottoms
* Hippie Wear
* Evening Dresses
* Leather Jackets
* Hawaiian Shirts
* Bowling Shirts
* Guayaberas
* Skirts
* Dickies Bags
* Wigs
* Shades & Accessories
* And Much More!
* Gift Certificates Available!

MONTEVINA
CALIFORNIA
ZINFANDEL
Pour it with Pride!
MONTEVINA
Official Wine Sponsor of Atlanta Pride 2004
© 2004, Montevina Winery, Trinchero Family Estates, St. Helena, CA 94574
© "Athena" by Kevin Lynn Photography. All rights reserved.

appts.

FRIDAY JUNE 18 & SATURDAY JUNE 19

The **Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus** honors the music and dance of classic male movie idols with '**Reel Men**,' 8 p.m. performances each night at Ferst Center for the Arts at Georgia Tech, 349 Ferst Drive NW. 404-320-1030, www.agmchorus.org; 404-894-9600, www.tickets.com

SUNDAY JUNE 20

Debonair **Clark Gable** and feisty **Vivien Leigh** light up the screen version of Margaret Mitchell's '**Gone With the Wind**,' in screenings at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Fox Theatre, 660 Peachtree St. NE. 404-881-2100, www.foxtheatre.org; 404-817-8700, www.ticketmaster.com

MONDAY JUNE 21

The Pride episode of public TV's '**In The Life**' gay newsmagazine is hosted by lesbian actress Cherry Jones and profiles the military's Don't Ask Don't Tell policy, the founders of PFLAG and gay political issues. 11 p.m. on PBA 30. www.wabe.org, www.inthelifetv.org

TUESDAY JUNE 22

WABE 90.1 Radio broadcasts '**The eX Files: Stories of Gay Divorce**,' the fourth installment of the 'Outright Radio' weekly series. 7 p.m. 678-686-0321, www.wabe.org, www.outrightradio.org

WEDNESDAY JUNE 23

Author **Philip Galanes** reads from and signs his debut novel, 'Father's Day,' a gay man's journeys through grief, sex and the search for the man of his dreams, at 8 p.m. at Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse, 991 Piedmont Ave. 404-607-0082, www.outwritebooks.com

FRIDAY JUNE 25

A shy, reclusive farm boy (**Emile Hirsch**, left) with a troubled home life seeks refuge and passion in a hunky neighbor (**Thomas Guiry**) in '**The Mudge Boy**,' opening at Landmark Midtown Art Cinema, 931 Monroe Drive. www.strandreleasing.com; 678-495-1424, www.landmarktheatres.com

To add a listing, e-mail calendar@sovo.com, call 404-876-1819, ext. 32, or fax to 404-876-2709, attn: Van Gower. Entries should be submitted at least 14 days in advance.

nightlife calendar

FRIDAY JUNE 18

Armory. 'La Femme Royale' starring Savannah Leigh, Nicole Luv Dupree, Sophia McIntosh, Paula Sinclair, Tony Desario and Tina Devore, 11 p.m.-2 a.m. 404-881-9280.
Backstreet Atlanta. Open 9 p.m.-7 a.m. Mon.-Sat. Charlie Brown's Cabaret, 11 p.m. 404-873-1986.
Blake's on the Park. Videos. Bingo with Bubba D. Licious, 7 p.m. 404-892-5786.
Blū. Dance party. 404-877-1221.
Buddies on Cheshire Bridge. 'Dumpster Divas' and free cookout, 5 p.m. 404-634-5895.
Bulldogs. Old-school, NYC and Chicago house, R&B, hip-hop. 404-872-3025.
Burkhart's Atlanta. Free pool, 4-7 p.m. 404-872-4403.
Chaparral. Latin night, 10 p.m.-4 a.m. 404-634-3737.
Club M-Mage. R&B, hip-hop. Blackout night, doors open 10 p.m. 404-527-0085.
Club 708. Third Street Boys male exotic dancers, 10 p.m. Blackout Fridays. 404-874-8125.
Colours. Hip-hop and R&B night. 678-702-0872.
Felix's on the Square. Themed laid-back lounge night with David. 404-249-7899.
Heretic. 'Sweat,' 10 p.m.-4 a.m. 404-325-3061.
Jungle. Performances by Shabazz, Alexandria Martin and Raquel Lord. Doors open 9 p.m. No cover before midnight. 404-844-8800.
Le Buzz. Dancing. 770-424-1337.
Mary's. 'Danceteria,' 9 p.m. 404-624-4411.
Masquerade. 'KISS' Fridays indie and glam rock. Ages 18+. 404-577-8178.
Metro. 'Get WET with Jayne Russell' wet jockeys contest, midnight. 404-874-9869.
Model T. 'Divas of Illusion,' 11 p.m. 404-872-2209.
My Sisters' Room. Weekly live music and special events. Doors open 8 p.m. 404-370-1990.
The New Order. 404-874-8247.
The Oscars Atlanta. Cocktail hour and showtunes, 5-7 p.m. Best of the Oscars, 7-9 p.m. 'Martinis, Men & Music Videos,' 9 p.m.
The Phoenix. 404-892-7871.
Swinging Richards. '2-4-1 T-Shirt Review.' 404-352-0532.
Tripps. Happy Hour, 3-9 p.m. Disco, 9 p.m. 404-724-0067.
Val's. Karaoke, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. 770-938-0567.
Woofs. 404-869-9422.

SATURDAY JUNE 19

Armory. 'La Femme Royale' with Tina Devore, Sophia McIntosh and Paula Sinclair, 11 p.m.-2 a.m.
Backstreet. Charlie Brown's Cabaret, 11 p.m.
Blake's. 'Let's Make A Diva Deal!' game, 11 p.m.
Blū. Dance party. Doors open 11 p.m.
The Breaking Point. New cabaret show, drag fights, 10:30 p.m.
Buddies. 'Gladiators of Glamour' with Peg, Regina Ryan and guests, 10 p.m.
Bulldogs. Old-school, NYC and Chicago house, R&B, hip-hop.
Burkhart's. Dinner menu, 5:30-9 p.m.
Club M-Mage. R&B, hip-hop. House night, doors open 10 p.m.
Club 708. Big party.
Colours. Male revue with original Men of Jaguar, 11:30 p.m.
Felix's. Laid-back lounge night with David.
Jungle. Performances by Shabazz, Alexandria Martin and Raquel Lord. Doors open 9 p.m. No cover before midnight. 404-844-8800.
Le Buzz. 'Girlzz of LeBuzz' drag show, 11 p.m.
Masquerade. 'SIN' erotic and industrial night, 10 p.m.-3 a.m. Ages 18+.
Metro. 'Caliente!' Latin party, 10 p.m.
Model T. 'Model Teez Girlz' drag show, 11 p.m.
My Sisters' Room. Dance party. Doors open 8 p.m.
Oscars. 'Martinis, Men & Music Videos,' 9 p.m.
Swinging Richards. '2-4-1 T-Shirt Review.'
Traxx. Hip-hop, 10 p.m. Male revue show, third floor, midnight. 404-681-4422.
Tripps. Blackout party, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Val's. Karaoke, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

SUNDAY JUNE 20

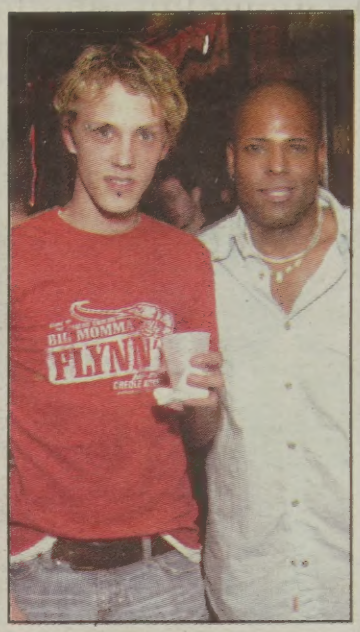
Armory. 'Flower Power' weekly T-dance with food, drinks, entertainment and giveaways. No cover. 2-8 p.m.
Backstreet. Open 6 p.m.-7 a.m. Charlie Brown's Cabaret, midnight.
Blake's. Blake's Big Time Drag Revue. 9:30 p.m.
Buddies. Morticia DeVille and the Atlanta Gospel Hour, free cookout, 6 p.m.
Bulldogs. 'SunTea' wet and wild party.
Burkhart's. Dinner menu, 4:30-7:30 p.m. The Armorettes! Infamous Camp Drag Queens of the South, 9 p.m.
Chaparral. 'Hip-Hop Sunday,' 10 p.m.
Club 708. Social night, open until midnight.
Heretic. 'Sweat' T-dance and frozen drinks on the patio, 6 p.m.-midnight. No cover.
Hoedowns. Line-dance lessons, 5-6 p.m. Cabaret and revue, 6 p.m. 404-876-0001.
Midtown Saloon & Grill. Free dinner buffet, 5-6 p.m. 404-874-1655.
Model T. Drag show, 10 p.m.
My Sisters' Room. 'The L Word' repeat episode, 9 p.m. New episode, 10 p.m.
Red Chair Restaurant & Video Lounge. All-you-can-eat gourmet brunch buffet, free champagne and mimosas, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. T-dance on the patio, 4:30 p.m. 'Red Chair Revue' with Bubba D. Licious and guests, 8 p.m. 404-870-0532.

MONDAY JUNE 21

Armory. Sophia McIntosh variety show, 10 p.m.
Blake's. 'Blake's Neighborhood Party' free buffet, 5-8 p.m. 'Drag Races' contest hosted by Alexandria Martin, 11 p.m.
The Breaking Point. APA & BCA league practice, free pool.
Buddies. Martini night. Free pool until 8 p.m.
Bulldogs. Old-school, NYC and Chicago house, R&B, hip-hop.
Burkhart's. Free pool, 4-7 p.m. Karaoke with Kitty LeClaw, midnight.
Club 708. Third Street Boys male exotic dancers, 10 p.m.
Colours. Male revue talent night, 11:30 p.m.
Eagle. Free pool. 404-873-2453.
Joe's on Juniper. Music trivia, 8-10 p.m. 404-875-6634.
Le Buzz. Free pool.
Metro. Industry Night, 10 p.m.
Midtown Saloon & Grill. Free pool all night.
Nickiemoto's. Dragamaki with Bubba D. Licious, Martina Diamante and weekly guests. 8:45 p.m. 404-253-2010.
Oscars. Service industry night, 9 p.m. 404-874-7748.
Traxx. 'Stars of the Century' female illusion show, doors open 10:30 p.m.
Tripps. Happy Hour, 3-9 p.m.
Val's. Trivia night.

TUESDAY JUNE 22

Armory. Drag show, 10:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m.
Blake's. Videos.
The Breaking Point. Free pool and open tournaments with cash prizes, 8 p.m.
Buddies. Karaoke with Bill and Kyle.
Bulldogs. Old-school, NYC and Chicago house, R&B, hip-hop.
Burkhart's. Free pool, 4-7 p.m. Karaoke with Kitty LeClaw, midnight.
Club 708. 'Oldies & Goodies' night, '70s and '80s hip-hop and R&B, 10 p.m.
Colours. Customer-appreciation night, 8 p.m.
Dragonfly. 18-and-up gay club night. Open bar 10-11 p.m. 21 to drink. 404-875-7473.
Hoedowns. Free dance lessons, 8 p.m.
Joe's on Juniper. 'Trivia Challenge,' 8-10 p.m.
Le Buzz. Karaoke featuring Alexandra Martin, 10:30 p.m.
Mary's. Mary-oke, 10 p.m.
Metro. Latin house music, 10 p.m.
Miss Q's. Pool leagues. 404-875-6255.
Model T. Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
Red Chair. Homestyle dinner and movie featuring 'Tootsie,' 7:30 p.m.
Swinging Richards. No cover before 10 p.m.
Traxx. 'Thugged-Out Tuesday Night' hip-hop, doors open 11 p.m.
Tripps. Happy Hour, 3-9 p.m.
Val's. Karaoke, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.



Burkhart's Atlanta welcomes men of every ilk for a good time any night of the week. 404-872-4403. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

WEDNESDAY JUNE 23

Backstreet. 'Spotlight' talent contest hosted by Juan Cezar and Monica Van Pelt, 1 a.m.
Blake's. 'The Lust & The Bust' with Lena Lust, Shawnna Brooks and Alexandria Martin, 11 p.m.
The Breaking Point. Karaoke jackpot for cash.
Bulldogs. Old-school, NYC and Chicago house, R&B, hip-hop.
Burkhart's. Free pool, 4-7 p.m. Karaoke, midnight.
Chaparral. 'Flamin'-Hot Wednesdays' with hot bods, go-go boys and contests.
Club M-Mage. R&B, hip-hop. Ladies' night, doors open 9 p.m.
Club 708. Open-mike night, 10 p.m. Mini-ball drag show, 2 a.m.
Colours. Male revue with original Men of Jaguar, 11:30 p.m.
Compound. 'Impulse' gay night. Doors open 9 p.m. 404-872-4621.
Heretic. 'Boys' Night Out' dress code party, 10 p.m.
Hoedowns. Free dance lessons, 8 p.m.
Jungle. 'Chico de la Jungle' Latin night. Doors open 9 p.m.
Le Buzz. 'Girlzz of LeBuzz,' 10 p.m. Men of Menergy dancers, 11 p.m.
Metro. 'Urban Spin' R&B and Old School music, 10 p.m. Maxine Blue's 'Class, Ass, & Pizzazz' show starring Feleshia Sapphire, Yanae Van Michaels, and guests, 11:30 p.m.
Midtown Saloon & Grill. Open-mike night, 8 p.m.
Miss Q's. Pool leagues.
Model T. Movie night, midnight.
My Sisters' Room. Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Oscars. Comedy night, 9 p.m.
Red Chair. Ladies' night.
Swinging Richards. No cover before 10 p.m.
Tripps. Happy Hour, 3-9 p.m. Karaoke, 11 p.m.
Vision. 'Skin and Sin Wednesdays,' open bar from 10-11 p.m. 404-874-4460.
WETbar. 'Femme-tini' ladies' night.

THURSDAY JUNE 24

Backstreet. Charlie Brown's Cabaret, midnight.
Bulldogs. Old-school, NYC and Chicago house, R&B, hip-hop.
Burkhart's. Free pool, 4-7 p.m. Kitty LeClaw's Meow Mix with Martina Diamante, Savannah Lee and Alicia Kelly. 11:30 p.m.
Club M-Mage. R&B, hip-hop. Doors open 9 p.m.
Club Rio. 'Thursday Extravaganza' gay night and drag show. No cover. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Gainesville. 770-654-3949, rioclub@charter.net
Club 708. 'Trade Thursdays' plus Third Street Boys male exotic dancers, 10 p.m.
Colours. 'Bad Boy Thursday,' 8 p.m.
Eagle. Underwear party, 10 p.m.
Felix's. Laid-back lounge night with David. Karaoke, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.
Heretic. 'Experience Rapture' dance party, 10 p.m.
Hoedowns. Ladies' night. Free line-dance lessons, 8 p.m.
Joe's on Juniper. '80s general trivia, 8-10 p.m.
Le Buzz. 'Court of Kings' drag kings, 10 p.m.
Mary's. 'Beat Surrender,' 9:30 p.m.
Masquerade. '80s night new-wave and alternative in Purgatory, 10 p.m.-3 a.m. Ages 18+.
Metro. Latin Connection, 10 p.m. 'Atlanta's Hottest Papi Contest' Pride Weekend Kick-Off hosted by Alexis Troncoso, midnight.
Model T. Open-mike, 8 p.m. Drag show, 11 p.m.
My Sisters' Room. Alternating open-mike and singer-songwriter nights. Open-mike sign-ups, 7 p.m. Doors open 8 p.m.
The New Order. Open-mike night, 8 p.m.
Oscars. Pure energy, pure video, 9 p.m.
Red Chair. College night: 18 to party, 21 to drink all night. Pride Celebration Karaoke and special Pride Drag, 10 p.m.
Tripps. Happy Hour, 3-9 p.m. Ciecresha & Company male revue, 10 p.m.
WETbar. Threesome Thursdays go-go boys and drink specials.

@ To add a listing, e-mail calendar@sovo.com, call 404-876-1819, ext. 32, or fax to 404-876-2709, attn: Van Gower. Entries should be submitted at least 14 days in advance.

the Hunt's over!
The best investment on Earth is earth.
We sell earth, and people dig that!
• On-line Property Search Made Easy
404.564.3512
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY INTOWN ATLANTA
the hunter group
www.HouseHunterAtlanta.com
Each Keller Williams® Realty office is independently owned and operated

You've already got the eye...

Royal

BUICK The Spirit of American Style

GMC WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE

PONTIAC Fuel for the Soul

Another option from the Royal family of automobiles.
Serving Atlanta for over 25 years.
www.DriveRoyal.com
(404) 325-8400

Sales
Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
closed Sunday

Parts & Service
Mon-Fri 7:30 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
closed Sunday

Woodstock Antiques

We invite you to discover an enchanting & unique

Antique Mall

A short drive from Atlanta

75N to 575N Bells Ferry Rd
go left 3 miles on the left before Hwy 92

678.445.7861

Home & Away Directory

FIXIT construction INC.
Renovation * Household * Fix Up
Decks * Pressure Washing
Restoration
Simple solutions that work!
Professional, Courteous, Experienced
Call **J.J.**
404.401.0059

Highland Landscaping
Design
Installation
Maintenance
Fertilizer
Weed Control
Water Features
A Professional, Full Service Landscaping Company
Office: 678.574.8123
Cell: 770.274.9836

Our designers & builders work with you from start to finish.
Kitchens, Baths, Basement buildouts, Porches, Room additions, and other large renovations.
770.668.9393
Distinctive REMODELING SOLUTIONS
DESIGN · CRAFTSMANSHIP · TEAMWORK
www.distinctiveremodeling.net
NARI

Chalk Line
Chalk Line Construction, LLC
Phone: 678-296-8902
Facsimile: 678-560-7013
www.thechalkline.com
Design • Renovation • Repair

dining SALLY HANSEL

Downtown pizzeria attracts young, hip and famous with sleek minimal décor and **affordable, creative menu.**

New thrill in Castleberry Hill

ARE THOSE "QUEER AS FOLK" celebs Randy Harrison and Scott Lowell, or just their virtual look-alikes on the Slice restaurant Web site?

Our waiter Michael hesitated before quietly confirming that the two "QAF" hotties partied there at a private event. Christine Aguillera rented the industrial chic space for a party, and "Trading Spaces" hunk Ty Pennington, whose brother lives in the neighborhood, has also hosted private gatherings in Slice's aesthetic setting.

All this at a pizzeria downtown on Peters Street? Get used to it. This up-and-coming newcomer in the Castleberry Hill arts and loft district has quickly established itself by pulling in a young, hip crowd with its urban music, sleek décor and yummy pizzas at affordable prices.

Late on a recent weeknight, almost every seat was filled with a healthy mix of black and white as well as gay and straight casually clad patrons mainly in their 20s and 30s.

A cool minimalism pervades Slice's decor, with long, parallel stretches of light wood for the wall seating and bar counter, which rests on raw concrete blocks. Two large plasma televisions hang above the full bar, offset by wall panels awash in soothing shades of blue and grey.

Alternative DVD choices like stunt skateboarding fill the screens soundlessly in deference to the eclectic overhead mix of jazz and funky instrumentals.

THE SERVERS ARE GENUINE AND laidback, giving interesting comments about the food instead of coming on with typical waiter-speak. Michael helps on appetizers — "It depends on how gluttonous you're feeling" — and I gratifyingly opt for the soft cheese bread with marinara dipping sauce ($5)

One small complaint: I went without tableware and napkins until the dish was nearly gone.

> This up-and-coming newcomer in Castleberry Hill quickly established itself by pulling in a young, hip crowd with its urban music, sleek décor and yummy pizzas.

With delicious thin crusts, pizzas can be ordered by-the-slice or whole with a lineup of 26 available toppings. Specialty pizzas with quirky names push the pie in unusual directions.

"Raging Agee" is a rich, creamy reincarnation of chicken cordon bleu, with chicken overlying thin ham rectangles, melted blue cheese dressing and fresh tomatoes. This is very filling, and the staff provides hints on re-heating leftovers at home to maximize the flavors.

For diners who like pizza sweet rather than salty, try "KP on a Platter," another rich concoction with smoked turkey, pureed apricot, mozzarella and oozing cream cheese ($13 for a 12-inch pie).

Individual slices in this setting are a bargain at $1.50, not counting toppings. A combination of sweet, spicy Italian sausage and mixed peppers tastes perfect, suggesting quality sausage ingredients.

Chicken toppings are made of chicken parmesan, wonderful in a tangy Greek mix with baby spinach and feta cheese. Skip the meatball slices, which were bland and tired.

Lasagna and calzones also can be designed with favorite toppings nestled inside.

Other items on the menu, which is the same for lunch and dinner, include salads, sandwiches, chicken parmesan, spaghetti and stromboli. The house salad ($6) of field greens is fresh but unremarkable aside from a generous scattering of toasted pine nuts and a decent balsamic vinaigrette on the side.

Desserts are limited.

LOCATED ONLY A MILE FROM CENTennial Park, Slice has plentiful on-street parking, wireless Internet access and a Web site with directions, a menu and a photo gallery.

Night-owls will like the new summer hours — open until 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights — and the kitchen is ready for lunch at 11 a.m. weekdays.

Cigarette smoke may be a problem for some fume-sensitive patrons. Given its relatively narrow rectangular design, the restaurant has little space and no barriers between the bar with its ashtrays and the nearby central tables, which are all non-smoking.

But an effective ventilation system and high ceilings keep the smoke haze thin.

FOOD FILE

SLICE

259 Peters St.
404-588-1820
www.sliceatlanta.com

Food: ★★★☆☆
Service: ★★★☆☆
Comfort & Aesthetics: ★★★☆☆
Value: ★★★★☆
Scene: ★★★★☆

The Joy of Sake

Thursday | Sipping Sake
Sunday | Sake at Sunset

$5 Sake Cocktails & Martinis
$3 Appetizers

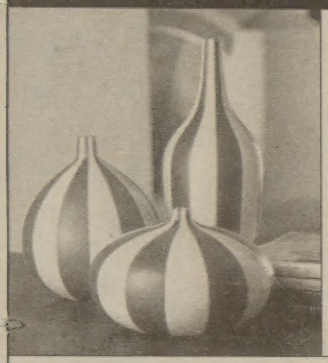
EVERY THURSDAY AND SUNDAY | 5 P.M. - 8 P.M.

Mu Lan

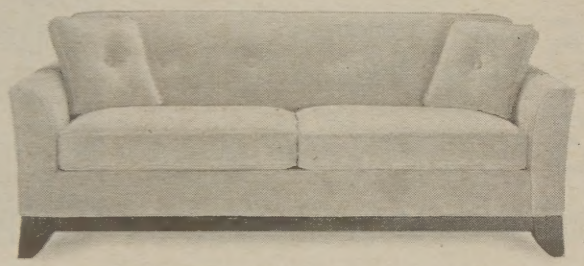
824 Juniper Street
Atlanta, GA
Midtown
Located between 5th & 6th St.
Valet or complimentary parking available
404.877.5797
www.mulanatl.com

reasons WHY?
As the proprietor of a small in-town restaurant, I've found reaching the gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual population to be a challenge. I've run ads in other publications, with little result. Southern Voice is a source of information and entertainment for all members of our community and has proven to be an effective advertising tool.
—Phil
Radial Restaurant
Southern VOICE ALL THE NEWS FOR YOUR LIFE AND YOUR STYLE.

TRADERS
NEIGHBORHOOD STORE
www.tradersatlanta.com

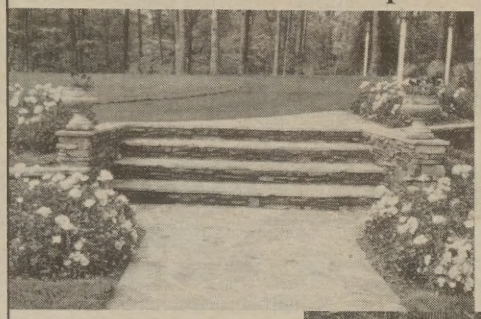


They may have Marriage but we can Decorate



GAY OWNED AND OPERATED
EAST ATLANTA VILLAGE
404.522.3006

Howell Landscaping of Georgia
Custom Landscape Design & Installation



- Over 15 years in Atlanta area
- Qualified designers on staff
- Competitive pricing
- Industry leading warranty
- Pike Family Nursery Preferred Contractor

Most Trusted Name for Landscaping in Georgia

Howell Landscaping of Georgia
678-297-2068

1024 Windward Parkway
Alpharetta, Ga 30005

Residents of Gables Druid Hills Enjoy:

- Heavily Wooded Views
- Spectacular Swimming Pool with Water Features
- Cabana Grill
- 1.25 Mile Walking/Running Trail
- Sand Volleyball Court
- Fitness Center
- Internet Cyber Café
- Oversized Balconies
- Designer Color Appliance Packages

Immediate Occupancy

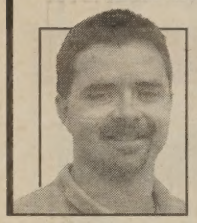
1590 NE Exp. / Atlanta, Ga 30329 /404.633.3010 / wwwGables.com
Mon., Tue., Thur., Fri.: 9am - 6pm / Wed., Sat.: 10am - 6pm / Sun.: 1pm - 5pm

FRANZ BLAM Racing

- **Service and Maintenance of all model BMW and Porsche Vehicles**
- **Fast Courteous Service including complimentary car cleaning**
- **We are known for our expertise and professionalism**
- **Serving the Atlanta area since "1976"**

Franz Blam *Racing* 2040 Steel Drive, Tucker GA 30084, 770.939.6100
www.FranzBlamRacing.com

theater JIM FARMER



Gay playwright **Joe Orton**'s best work brings the 1960s to life with still-pertinent themes that satirize society with **cutting comedy.**

Outside the main stream

THE GEORGIA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL blossomed over the last decade into one of Atlanta's more dependable, more risk-taking troupes. Its summer line-up is always a highlight of the season.

Along with "Cyrano de Bergerac" and "Coriolanus," the festival is staging "What the Butler Saw," perhaps the best-known work by gay playwright Joe Orton. Gay director Sabin Epstein helms the production.

Orton's comedy, the last he wrote before his death, is also a personal favorite for Epstein.

"'What the Butler Saw' is one of the most amusing, funniest plays ever written," Epstein says. "It's a great work that will definitely stand the test of time. I think it's a descendant of Oscar Wilde. It's got bite to it, it's not a piece of fluff.

"One of the reasons I signed on is that I knew we'd be laughing the whole time we did it," he adds.

"Butler" is set in England in the '60s. It is a screwball comedy that pokes fun at many societal precepts, among them psychiatric therapy.

"When you talk about it, it sounds almost intellectual, but it's such a visceral, in the moment piece, and very funny," Epstein says.

EPSTEIN DIRECTED THE SHOW ONCE in his native Los Angeles and even acted in it.

"Since the mid-'80s, when I first directed 'What the Butler Saw,' I have read all of Orton's work," he says. "This is definitely my favorite of his, though. It's the most fleshed-out, in terms of its structure, its economy."

Epstein acknowledges that "Butler" has a definite gay sensibility.

Park Kraussen and **Brad Sherrill** help 'What the Butler Saw' poke fun at mainstream ideals at Georgia Shakespeare Festival.

"I think it's great show for GSF to do now," he says. "Gender and identity are part of the times we live in. In Orton's show, a girl is disguised as a boy, and a boy is disguised as a girl. That's all part of the fun."

Orton saw himself as an outsider, and not being in the mainstream pervades "Butler," according to Epstein.

"Joe Orton was an anarchist, blowing up everything in site," he says. "There is such a spirit of that here, in terms of the sexual mores and relationships and twists."

Dad's Garage staged a successful version of "What the Butler Saw" not long ago that featured a healthy amount of nudity. Epstein's version will, too.

"There is a bit of nudity here, too, but it's what is called for," Epstein says. "It's done tastefully and I think hilariously."

Epstein has been a guest director at the festival since the company's early days. His last show was the acclaimed "Twelfth Night" in 2002.

"That show dealt with sexual confusion and ambiguity as well," he admits.

The Georgia Shakespeare Festival has built a reputation for daring shows. Perhaps its gayest show was a few seasons back — "The Two Gentleman of Verona," which practically dripped with homoerotica.

SYNCHRONICITY PERFORMANCE Group closes its cheerleading comedy "Be Aggressive" this weekend. Annie Weisman' show has a terrific setup, but it truly never comes close to reaching its potential. It's also largely devoid of laughs.

Theater in the Square this weekend also closes its musical "Keep on the Sunny Side," about the singing Carter family, after an extended run.

The entertaining, often experimental Center for Puppetry Arts opens "Evolutions." It's a show that combines sketches from the Center's outré XPT series with some newer works.

Among the collaborators in the project is Brian Mercer, a gay actor.

MORE INFO

'What the Butler Saw'
In repertory June 25-Aug. 6
Georgia Shakespeare Festival
Conant Performing Arts Center
4484 Peachtree Road
404-264-0020

'Be Aggressive'
Through June 20
7 Stages
1105 Euclid Ave.
404-523-7647

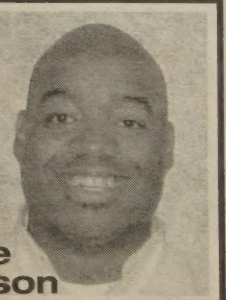
'Evolutions'
Through June 26
Center for Puppetry Arts
1404 Spring St.
404-873-3391

INDIGO GIRLS
PERFECT WORLD TOUR
Chastain
PARK AMPHITHEATRE
the Delta CONCERT SERIES
JUNE 27
8:00PM
ON SALE NOW!
IN STORES NOW!
CC.COM
Tickets also available at all ticketmaster outlets and at 404-249-6400. All dates, acts and ticket prices are subject to change without notice. A service charge is added to each ticket price. Produced by Alex Cooley & Peter Conlon / A Clear Channel Event.

Pride of Dixie
The Finest Monthly Antiques Market Anywhere in America
ANTIQUES MARKET
4th Weekend for June show at the North Atlanta Trade Center
June 23-25, 2004
Fri.: 9 am-5 pm, Sat.: 9 am-6 pm and Sun.: 11 am-5 pm—Admission: $4.00
Free Parking • One Large Building • All-Climate Controlled
Over 800 Booths with Quality Antiques & Old Collectibles
For More Information & Space Reservations Call 770/279-9853
Take I-85 to Indian Trail, exit 101. East on Indian Trail, Right on Oakbrook Pkwy,. Right on Jeurgens Ct.

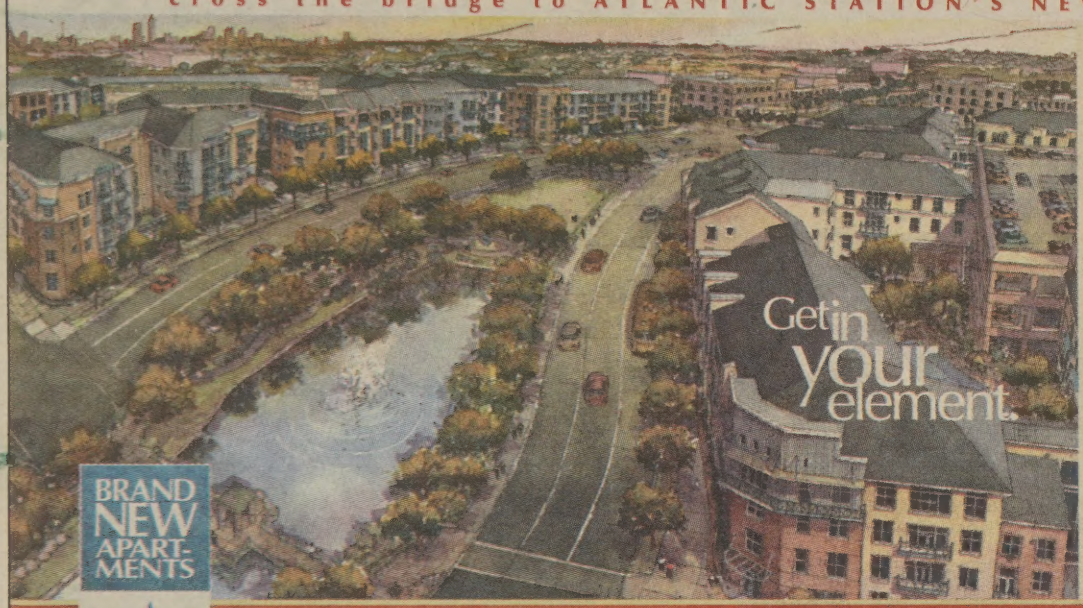
I've been with Royal Subaru-Isuzu for over 7 years now, and I know first hand that our commitment to serve the LGBT community is genuine. Royal has consistently valued diversity – they allow me to be me, and you to be you. Royal Automotive Group is an Official Sponsor of Pride 2004 – and I'll be there celebrating with you.

Royal SUBARU OF DECATUR



Tyrone Wilson
678.472.5871 Direct
404.296.9100 (Ask for Tyrone)
Convenient Intown Location

cross the bridge to ATLANTIC STATION'S NEWEST ADDRESS



BRAND NEW APARTMENTS

PARK DISTRICT
APARTMENT HOMES
at Atlantic Station

NOW AVAILABLE
1 & 2 bedroom apartments & townhomes

- Swimming pool with fountain
- On-site spa
- Business center & conference room
- Health & fitness center
- Full-size washer/dryer connections
- Lushly landscaped courtyards
- Controlled access entry
- High-speed Internet access available
- Walk to shopping, dining & entertainment!

Atlantic Station
LIVE WORK PLAY

From I-75/I-85 south, exit at the new 17th Street exit (large yellow bridge) and turn right. Park District at Atlantic Station will be on the right. From I-75/I-85 north, exit 14th Street and turn left. Turn right on Fowler, and then left on 16th Street. Turn right on State Street and left on 17th Street. Park District at Atlantic Station will be on the right.

404.872.5542
401 17th Street • Atlanta
www.lanecompany.com

Lane

All New
2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee

Take $7,000 OFF MSRP
Dealer retains all rebates. Vehicles must be purchased from dealer stock. Offers expire 06.30.04

All New
2004 Jeep Liberty & Wrangler

Take $4,000 OFF MSRP
Dealer retains all rebates. Vehicles must be purchased from dealer stock. Offers expire 06.30.04

That's NALLEY ROSWELL

Nalley Roswell Chrysler Jeep
11505 Alpharetta Hwy.
Roswell, GA 30076
770.664.9100 • Contact Rick Banks
www.nalleychryslerjeep.com

EQUALITY = JUSTICE
JUNE 25 26 27 2004 THE ATLANTA PRIDE CELEBRATION

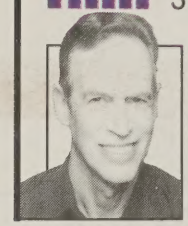
PRIDE NEEDS YOU!

SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY!

set up, donations, merchandise, security, parade, hospitality, and lots of other fun stuff!

www.atlantapride.org

film STEVE WARREN



Laudable **teen comedy succeeds** where others failed, trumpeting gay issues while pointing out the un-holiness of conservative holy rollers.

Throwing 'Christians' to the satire lions

A gay character played by **Chad Faust** (left) gets an unexpected bonus at 'de-gaying' school when he's placed with a gay roommate played by **Kett Turton**.

THIS IS A GREAT COUNTRY if movies like "Saved!" can be made and shown here. If Iraqis poked comparable fun at their religious fundamentalists, they'd earn a one-way ticket to prison.

Expect "Saved!" to be protested by the same people who protested "Life of Brian" — and for the same reason: they'll think it's mocking Jesus because they're too stupid to understand it's mocking them.

"Saved!" opened in Atlanta on June 11. It is the movie "But I'm a Cheerleader" might have been if it had spread its net a little wider to include a broader base of "sinners" and had aimed for low-budget polish.

This is also the movie "Mean Girls" might have been if the girls were really mean. Mandy Moore has fun with her squeaky clean image as Hilary Faye, the leader of the Christian Jewels, "sort of, like, a girl gang for Jesus." The other Jewels are Mary (Jena Malone) and Veronica (Elizabeth Thai), with wannabe Tia (Heather Matarazzo).

But this is Mary's story.

Two weeks before the start of her senior year, Mary's boyfriend Dean (Chad Faust) comes out as gay. Devout Christian that she is, and convinced by Hilary Faye she can be re-virginized, Mary tries to cure him.

DEAN'S PARENTS FIND OUT HE'S GAY and send him to Mercy House, where they deal with things like "degayification and unwed mothers." Mary could be headed there herself when she learns she's having Dean's baby.

The news about Dean gets out because Hilary Faye feels compelled to hold a prayer circle for him. Hilary Faye's "differently abled" and rebellious brother Roland (Macaulay Culkin) makes it cool to be handicapped and hooks up with the school's other outsider, Cassandra (Eva Amurri), the only Jewish student, who is prone to behaving outrageously while everyone else prays for her conversion.

The other student of note is the new boy, Patrick (Patrick Fugit), the son of the school principal, Pastor Skip (Martin Donovan). Skip tries to relate to the youngsters, opening the year with, "Let's get our Christ on! Let's kick it, Jesus style!"

Sometimes there are side benefits to Mercy House, as when Dean is assigned a similarly "afflicted" roommate, Mitch (Kett Turton).

THE ELEMENTS ARE IN PLACE FOR A wonderful moral tale where everyone is trying to be on the side of the angels but no one asks the angels which side they're on.

It's obvious which side director and co-writer Brian Dannelly is on, and his wit provides delightful surprises every step of the way.

As teen movies will, "Saved!" climaxes at the prom. Yes, these kids are allowed to dance — to Christian rock, of course.

Mary delivers the ultimate message: "Why would God make us all so different if He wanted us to be all the same?"

In a year when a number of less worthy teen films have been wildly successful, they may have "Saved!" the best for last. An instant addition to the list of all-time greatest high school movies, it's going to give some impressionable teens the right impression.

MORE INFO

'Saved!'

★★★½☆

Queer Quotient: Intolerance of religious conservatives toward gays is one of the film's main themes. Culkin's character is straight but cool. REM's Michael Stipe duets with Mandy Moore in a reprise of "God Only Knows."

SHERWOOD CHIROPRACTIC CENTER

Dr. Kathleen M. Sherwood

New Patient Services **AT NO CHARGE** with your $25 Donation to Action Cycling Atlanta.org

Benefits Emory Hope Clinic

(Excluding x-rays, if needed) Expires 6/30/04

"Jumpstart Your Health" During the Month of June!

Serving the Emory/DeKalb Area Since 1994!

Mon-Thurs 8-1, 3-7 • Fri by appointment

1275 McConnell Drive, Suite E • Decatur

404-321-0082

www.SherwoodChiropracticCenter.com

1/4 mile from intersection of Clairmont & N. Druid Hills

Most insurance plans accepted.

We Care, We Listen, We Get Results!

What patients say...

"Dr. Sherwood is wonderful, caring and a true professional! The Best!"
John W. Semi – Retired

"I went from severe pain to none the day after treatment. I was shocked at how quickly my back healed after treatment."
Gary V. – Sales Support

"I don't feel so much like an old lady when I get up in the morning!"
Yolande B. – Training Manager

"Dr. Sherwood was able to help me with every problem I brought to her attention! Every thirty-minute visit put a new spin on my day. What a treat!"
Tracy F. – Graphic Artist

What MDs say...

"Dr. Sherwood is a very astute clinician. I would not hesitate to have her adjust my spine."
– Dr. Joseph N. Saba, MD.

"I recommend Dr. Sherwood without reservation, and the best recommendation I can give is to refer patients to her for care, which I do not hesitate to do."
– Dr. Michael Flueckiger, M.D.

PLEASE:
NO DOGS ALLOWED

Per City of Atlanta ordinance Section 7, Section 110-70, under Article III of Chapter 110,

"Pets are prohibited in parks during permitted Class A, Class B and Class C outdoor festivals, as defined in section 138-187 and 138-205."

Please be aware that patrons may NO longer bring their dogs, even on leashes to the Atlanta PRIDE Festival.

Only service canines are permitted.

For your convenience, a special PRIDE rate for doggie daycare and boarding is available at Piedmont Bark, 501 Amsterdam This facility is near the park and is gay owned! Call 404-873-5400 for info.

www.atlantapride.org

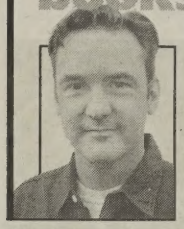
femme tini
WEDNESDAYS FOR WOMEN@
WETbar
GREAT MUSIC • BEAUTIFUL WOMEN!
COCKTAILS • CONVERSATION
ROOF TOP PATIO
ARRIVE EARLY • PLAY LATE!
8PM • UNTIL . NO COVER
SMIRNOFF
get over the hump with a smirnoff femme-tini martini!
EVERY WEDNESDAY
FOR WOMEN WHO LOVE WOMEN
960 SPRING STREET . MIDTOWN, ATLANTA . 404.745.9494
SMIRNOFF VODKA

Hillside at Oakhurst
18 Townhomes from the $280's
In the City of Decatur
NOW PRE-SELLING!
Walk to Oakhurst Village for Dining and Shopping!
Walk to The Path and Decatur Square!
• Secluded Park Like Setting
• Near Agnes Scott College
• Real Front Porches
• Craftsman Style Architecture
• 3 Story, 2 and 3 Bedrooms
• Rear Entry 2 Car Garages
Directions: From Downtown Decatur: Agnes Scott College, go south on McDonough Street. Take a left on Hill Street East.
404-867-4162
404-377-1369
Doug Keeler
Bo Bridgeport Brokers
www.bobridgeport.com
HOMESTAR
Georgia Residential License, #16252
Information believed to be accurate but not warranted.

Arthritis • Neck Pain • Muscle Pain • Back Pain • Carpal Tunnel • Massage Therapy
PEACHTREE CENTER
Chiropractic & Rehab
Your personal injury specialist.
Introducing the Solaris Laser, the most up to date technology for your aches and pains.
100% satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.
we accept all insurance
Dr. Jay Berkowitz
Dr. Elliot Sherman
Conveniently located on the Marta Line at Peachtree Center Downtown.
404.522.9991 | www.peachtreecenterchiro.com | Mon.-Thurs.: 9-6:30 | Friday: 9-5:30

MEN'S HEALTH SOLUTIONS
Anti Aging Headquarters
Experience
Erections
Like When You Were In Your 20's!
• Most effective and safest natural erection.
• Safe for persons suffering from hypertension.
• No side effects.
• NON-PRESCRIPTION-CALL NOW
770.942.0597
You're 30 min. from Rockin' On!

books MIKE FLEMING



Atlanta native returns after more than 50 years as **novelist, historian** and contemporary of Williams and Capote.

Prodigal son returns

GAY AUTHOR DONALD WINDHAM hasn't seen his native Atlanta since the 1980s. And he hasn't lived here since 1939, when he ran away as a teen to be with the man he loved in New York City.

Times — and the city of Atlanta — have changed since Windham's first novel, "The Dog Star," was published in 1950. The book, which is enjoying a re-release by Athens-based Hill Street Press, takes place in the Depression-era city of Windham's youth.

The author returns to his hometown June 23 to discuss and read from the book at the Margaret Mitchell house.

"You never fully escape where you're from," Windham says in a telephone interview from New York. "I have such vivid memories of Atlanta, and I'm curious to see the changes I've heard about."

What hasn't changed in more than 50 years is the lyrical, free-flowing writing style in "The Dog Star" — or its alternately gut-wrenching and heart-warming coming-of-age story about Blackie Pride, a delinquent youth who flees reform school after his best friend commits suicide.

"But a great deal of the past remains, if not wholly the same," Windham writes in his modern-day afterward to the novel. "Piedmont Park remains. The summer's flower of heat still opens wide. The night skies of the dog days glitter with the same brilliance. And Blackie's problem of accepting his identity, of hunting for and fleeing from it, is still the problem of youth, perhaps more prominent."

WINDHAM'S NOTABILITY GOES beyond his writing and into the life he forged for himself in New York. After arriving there, his path changed dramatically when the man he loved decided to marry a woman.

"I was absolutely by myself," Windham says. "I knew that I wanted to write, but I was penniless."

He began working as a magazine editor for $25 a week and living rent-free in a friend's apartment. While there, he developed friendships with such well-known luminaries as Truman Capote, Tennessee Williams, E.M. Forster, painter Paul Cadmus and collagist Joseph Cornell.

In 1948, author **Donald Windham** was wrapping up 'The Dog Star,' his debut novel about Depression-era Atlanta. He returns to his hometown next week to read from the book's recent re-release.

Williams, in particular, became a close friend.

"He was the first person I ever met who thought that the most important thing a person could be was a writer," Windham says.

The two penned the play "You Touched Me" in the mid 1940s, and its moderate success provided Windham with his first real income — enough to complete "The Dog Star."

"[The label "gay author"] is just silly," Windham says. "We didn't mind being called homosexual or saying that we were homosexuals, but we didn't think of ourselves as 'homosexual authors.' We were just ordinary people. We weren't political about sex.

"That's the difference between a 'gay author' and an author who is gay," he says.

WINDHAM WENT ON TO WRITE SEVeral more novels. But perhaps his most read work is in non-fiction tomes about his friendships with Williams, Capote and Forster.

The Mitchell House event and the re-release of "The Dog Star" provide a chance for Atlanta audiences to finally embrace a native son who was misunderstood by readers but lauded by huge figures in American literature. Besides Williams, Capote and Forster, author Thomas Mann and Atlanta Journal editor Ralph McGill wrote glowing reviews.

But some critics found his style more European than Southern and dismissed or wholly missed the book.

"I've always felt that authors gain self respect not by how much they sell, but by what other writers think of them," Windham says.

MORE INFO

Donald Windham
June 23, 7 p.m.
Margaret Mitchell House
999 Peachtree St. NE
404-249-7012

BRITNEY SPEARS
THE ONYX HOTEL tour
with special guest
JC CHASEZ
AND SKYE SWEETNAM
ON SALE NOW!
JULY 21
hifi buys amphitheatre
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ALL ticketmaster OUTLETS
CHARGE BY PHONE (404) 249-6400
OR ONLINE AT TICKETMASTER.COM OR HOB.COM
PRODUCED BY HOB
hob.com
Date and support act(s) subject to change without notice. All tickets subject to convenience charge.
A portion of each ticket sold will be donated to the Britney Spears Foundation.
www.jiverecords.com
www.britneyspears.com
IN STORES NOW

Lofts. Condominiums. Luxury High Rises. Townhomes. Clusterhomes.
Get Moving
start living.
Every size, every space, every address. From $70,000 to $7 million and everything in between, look to the experts for it all. The Condo Store.
Expertise that will move you.
the CONDO store
#1 for Over a Decade.
Buy or List with the Experts.
condostore.com
COLDWELL BANKER
THE CONDO STORE
Owned & Operated by NRT Incorporated
Serving All of Metro Atlanta–
Buckhead (404) 262.6636 | 3221 Peachtree Rd. above Eatzi's
Midtown (404) 292.6636 | 900 Peachtree St. at Eighth St.
Home Office/ On-Site Sales (404) 705.1570 | One Glenlake Pkwy.
Call Coldwell Banker Mortgage & Get Pre-Approved Today! (877) 251.5698

The Shape of Things to Come...

...Is Already Here!

Block Lofts. Right in the middle of Atlanta's greatest neighborhoods, eateries, night spots and recreation. Dramatic skyline views. Jump on the Freedom Path and follow it to your new home. It's right around the Block.

Pre-construction Pricing
30 DAYS ONLY!

1 & 2-story Lofts *from*
$150's - $280's
404-588-9690
NOW SELLING!

BLOCK LOFTS
At Poncey-Highland

MORRIS & RAPER REALTORS

747 Ralph McGill Blvd NE, Atlanta GA • BlockLofts.com

Southeast Capital Partners

Heaven ....calling all Angels

Girl Party
pride weekend
~ guys welcome ~

Raffle
Benefiting
Atlanta Pride
Committee

FRIDAY
June 25th
9pm ~ 3am
$20

Contest ~
Sexiest Angel
wins $100

DJ's
DJ Tie
Yvonne Monet
Kim Crawford

Art Opening
women artist collective
'nigmataochi'

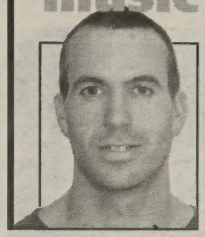
Acoustic Performances
Robin Leigh • Dawn Jackson

Dance Performances
Soiree Dancers

SWÄ-RĀ

visit: www.evite.com/GIRLSWARA@aol.com/HEAVEN2004
Park Tavern · 500 10th St. @ Monroe Dr. · Atlanta, GA · 404-249-0001

music CYD ZEIGLER, JR.



It's been a while since listeners heard original music from **George Michael**, but the wait was well worth 'Patience.'

'Patience' pays off

THE TERM HEARD MOST ABOUT THE relationship between George Michael fans and his music is "soundtrack." From "Faith" to "Older," the gay singer has had a way of connecting with listeners that helped shape and define periods in their lives.

"Faith" gave high-schoolers an entrée into sexuality. And for many, "Listen Without Prejudice, Volume One" became the seminal soundtrack to the next 14 years.

On the back of the "Patience" cover, Michael concludes his thanks by offering his appreciation to fans.

"I would like to thank the most patient audience in the history of pop music, for waiting. Again," he writes.

It might be a stretch, but not much of one. "Older" offered the hits "Fast Love" and "Jesus To A Child," and two other albums offered reflections of his past music and covers of other songs of the last century, but not since 1990's "Prejudice" has Michael so clearly had something to say.

It's been a confusing 14 years for an artist who had to deal with being outed in such a humiliating way (arrested for soliciting in a public restroom) and battles with his labels Sony and then DreamWorks SKG.

Michael has clearly emerged stronger with lessons learned as well as a new muse.

Like no album since the dynamic "Faith," he spreads his wings on "Patience," which offers one of Michael's widest ranges yet of music, from instrumental to heartfelt love song and upbeat dance.

FANS OF "PREJUDICE" WILL RECOGnize the lyrical mastery in the title track, which is revisited in the last track sans lyrics, similar to Michael's 1990 release "Waiting For That Day."

The track and the album also delve deeply into his fascination with childhood. A theme long trod upon in Michael's music, the album's back cover even shows two boys of different races staring at one another.

Michael's excursions into childhood in this album, as in the past, are also tied tightly to his themes of loss.

Pop star **George Michael** is back with 'Patience,' a new album that won't disappoint fans of the gay singer famous for his ups and downs.

Perhaps most importantly, Michael is also openly and madly in love with a man these days. Love and sex have been the themes of many of his previous songs, but never have they been so intimate as they are on "American Angel," which he dedicates to "a tasty Texan geezer."

The song is, at its core, an ode to his lover, and Michael shares deep appreciation for the man who "stopped to wipe away my tears and you stayed forever and more."

The singer's vulnerability comes through in a hint of social commentary as well as a simultaneous offer of hope for American foreign policies: "My American Angel, he doesn't want to fight (doesn't need to fight); my U.S. of Angel, holds me in the dead of night."

Michael also satisfies fans on the dance floor. "Flawless (Go To The City)" pays homage to the disco hits of the '70s without relying too heavily on the sounds of the neo-disco tracks that have come from other pop stars in the last few years. If he didn't intend this to be played upon the entrance of every drag queen around the world, then I'm gayer than he is.

If buyers go for the European import of the album, "Shoot The Dog," a sample from Human League's "Love Action" is a catchy anthem that will remind the listener of Robbie Williams' "Rock DJ," another hit from a British pop star.

Whether record buyers decide that "Patience" was worth the wait, the album definitely more than makes up for lost time.

MORE INFO

'Patience'
George Michael
Sony International
Dreamworks SKG

DJ Top 10 lists

DJ MD

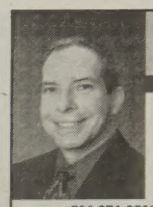
My Sisters' Room
www.mysistersroom.com
404-370-1990

1.'Yeah' — Usher
2.'Tipsy' — J—Kwon
3.'Freak—A—Leak' — Petey Pablo
4.'Salt Shaker' — Lil Jon & The Eastside Boyz
5.'Naughty Girl' — Beyonce
6.'Hey Ya' — Outkast
7.'The Way You Move' — Outkast
8.'Milkshake' — Kelis
9.'My Neck, My Back' — Khia
10.Anything by Madonna

DJ Rob Reum

Backstreet
404-873-1986
www.backstreetatlanta.com

1.'Heartattack (Peter Rauhofer Particular Mix)' — Jahkey B. feat. Satta
2.'In Stereo Part 1 (Original Mix)' — Chus & Ceballos vs. Tedd Patterson
3.'Rainwater (Victor Calderone Mix)' — Astrid Suryanto
4.'All I Know (D. Ramirez Mix)' — Spoiled
5.'Soy Mexicana (Crispy Crème Tribal Mix)' — Miss Lupita
6.'If I Was A DJ (Lil' Steven Jeep Beats Mix)' — Roland Clark presenting Urban Soul
7.'Primal (Mindtrap Mix)' — Motomo 315
8.'It Gotta Be (Chus & Ceballos Stereo Mix)' — Sucker DJ
9.'Bodies Movin (Dusting The Mirror Ball Mix)' — Housekeeperz with Angel Infiniti
10.'Freedom (Manny Lehman Mix)' — CeeVox


Rick J. Powell, Realtor
www.rickjpowell.com
SERVING:
BLUE RIDGE
ELLIJAY
ATLANTA
706-276-2500 (Blue Ridge, Ellijay)
404-843-2500 (Atlanta) | 404-931-1120 (Cell Phone)
rick.powell@metrobrokers.com
If you are considering buying or selling a home in the North Georgia Mountains please call me.
Member FMLS, GAMLS, & N.E. GA MLS.
Elegant Homes
Member of Northeast Georgia Board of Realtors. Member of National Association of Realtors.
metrobrokers.com GMAC Real Estate

Committ-2-It
Exercise & Nutritional Conditioning
Commitment... it's your choice
- Individualized exercise & nutrition plans designed to meet conditioning goals
- Specializing in fat loss & total body conditioning
- 1/2 hour & 1hour sessions available conducted in a non-intimidating environment

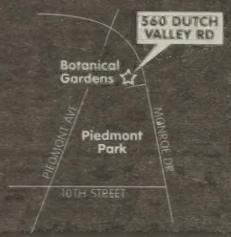
*Sessions are conducted at Excercising Art or in client's homes.
Stacey Seaver,
AMFPT Certified & ACSM Certified (09/04)
404.441.4964 • sseaver23@hotmail.com

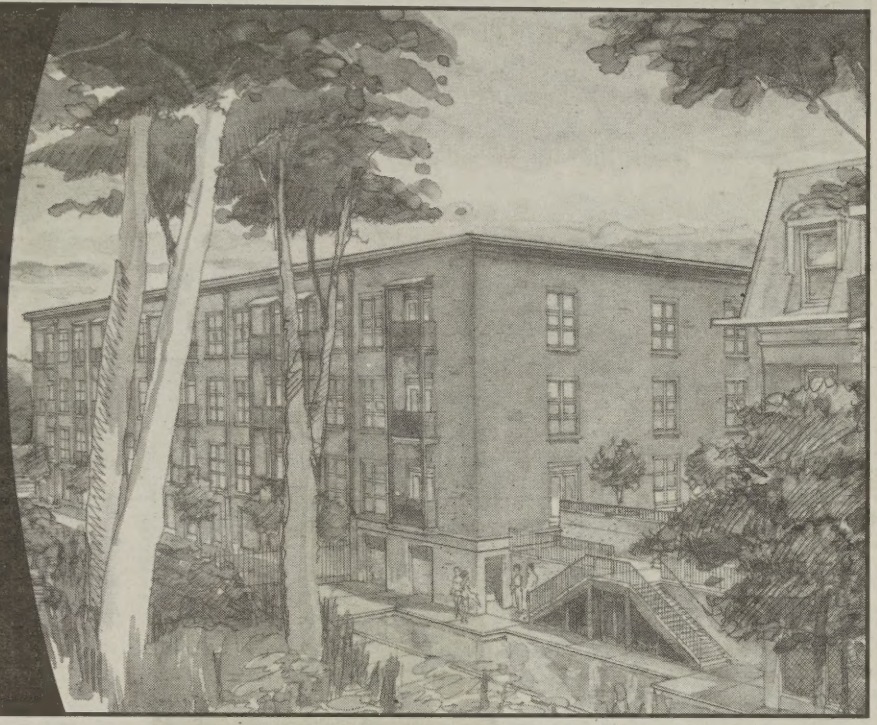
Ahhhh... Such A Natural Beauty!
USING NATURAL NON-TOXIC PRODUCTS
MICHAEL'S NATURAL HAIR STUDIO
AT SALON STUDIOS • STUDIO #210
770.256.6469
Holcomb Bridge Rd. & Old Alabama Rd.
www.salonstudios.com

BRAND NEW LOFT LIVING
ON PIEDMONT PARK
FROM THE $180's TO $290's

...the lofts at the...
BELVEDERE

NOW AVAILABLE
DESIGNER MODEL NOW OPEN

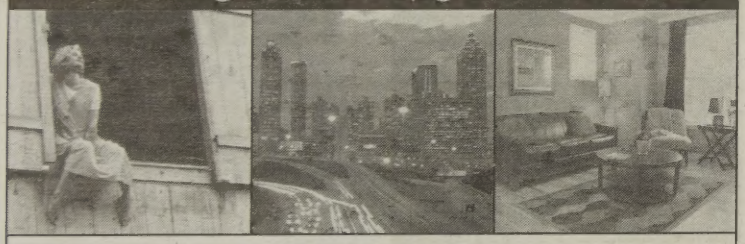




NEXT TO PIEDMONT PARK • GATED COMMUNITY • POOL & SUNDECK • PET WALK • PRIVATE BALCONIES
GRANITE COUNTERTOPS • STAINLESS STEEL APPLIANCES • HIGH CEILINGS • HIGH SPEED INTERNET

WWW.BELVEDERELOFTS.COM 404.875.4474 560 DUTCH VALLEY RD / ATLANTA, GA 30324

Now Offering a $5,000 Upgrade Allowance*



Two Bedroom New Townhomes from the $190's.

Your Intown Hideaway

Discover a serene hideaway, only five minutes from downtown.

The Village at Grant Park.

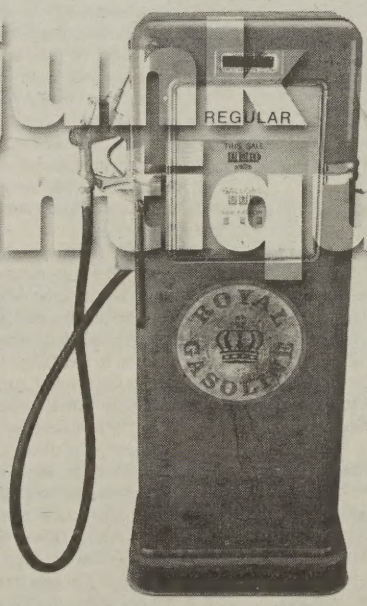
- 2 BR/2.5 BA with optional office.
- Gated community on cul-de-sac.
- Individual garages with custom barn doors and openers.
- Pool with grilling area.
- Private, heavily wooded, fenced backyard with deck.
- Installed security system, prepaid for 6 months.
- 9' to 12' ceilings.
- Hardwood floors.
- Gourmet kitchens with solid surface and granite countertops.

Directions from I-75/85: Exit I-20 East, to Boulevard/Zoo Atlanta, Exit#59A. Turn right on Boulevard Ave. Pass Zoo Atlanta/ Cyclorama. Turn right at Atlanta Ave. Turn left on Grant St. (.05 mile) At dead-end, turn left on Grant Circle. Community is at end of cul-de-sac.

SALES CENTER 404.622.6006
www.villageatgrantpark.com
the village of grant park

*On select homes. See Agent for details.
Equal Housing Opportunity Exclusive Sales and Marketing By: Owned and Operated by NRT, Inc.

junk or antique?



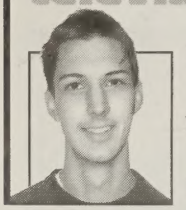
YOU DECIDE!

FIND EVERYTHING YOU ARE LOOKING FOR IN SOUTHERN VOICE CLASSIFIEDS

SOUTHERNVOICEclassifieds

southern voice | PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD NOW! CALL 877 863 1885 OR PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.SOVO.COM

television BRIAN MOYLAN



PBS documentary **'I Can't Marry You'** offers touching stories about same-sex partners, but nothing new in this look at marriage debate.

Touching but already dated

IT INVADED MASSACHUSETTS AND San Francisco seemingly overnight. The controversy leeched its way into homes across America by way of televisions, radios or computers. Could yours be next? Film at 11 — make that 10:30 on Atlanta's WPBA next week.

The new PBS documentary titled "I Can't Marry You," by lesbian filmmaker Catherine Gray, is another addition to the same-sex marriage debate currently unfolding in the U.S.

But this hour-long documentary, which includes interviews with 20 same-sex couples who have been together for 10 years or more, was finished last summer. So while it contains plenty of interesting information about the social and legal plight of gay couples, there's nothing here about the recent landmark decision in Massachusetts that granted gays the right to marry.

"The Massachusetts rulings are great, and it's a breakthrough, but it's not the ultimate goal," says Gray, 44, from her home in New York City. "I think that we need something to show these couples and what they're going through, because they don't have the federal benefits of marriage. In that respect it's still up to date."

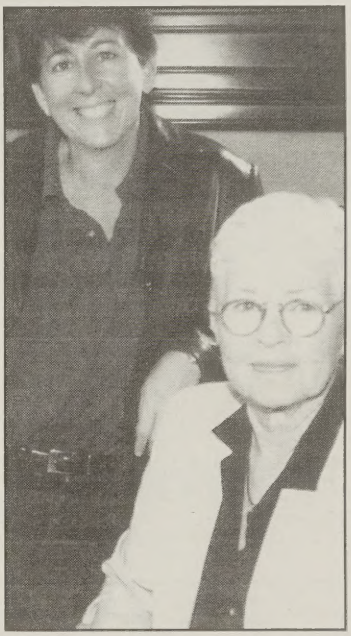
According to Gray, even with the latest information on marriage rights in Massachusetts, there still are more than 1,000 legal rights available to married couples that are denied to gay couples.

While "I Can't Marry You" does repackage information already available to news savvy viewers, no matter how many times we see or hear about this in the media, it's still sweet when couples who have been together for as long as 55 years talk about what makes their relationships work.

GRAY, WHO IS IN A RELATIONSHIP that she says is not yet "long-term," says the film does break new ground.

"A lot of people in the community don't know their rights," she says. "When I began this [in 2002], people thought they were able to marry somewhere."

The Human Rights Campaign conducted a poll in February that found that 51percent of gay Americans thought that civil unions and marriage were identical. Even after all the hoopla, it's apparent that even gay men and lesbians need to learn more about their rights.



Lesbian documentarian **Catherine Gray** (left) and narrator **Betty DeGeneres** hope to inform gay viewers about same-sex marriage in the film 'I Can't Marry You.'

Gray, who has tirelessly promoted the film both for PBS and at screenings aimed at gay viewers around the country, would like gay men and lesbians to be educated about same-sex marriage.

"I think the best way for us to win the civil right is to first educate the gay community and then have the community educate the non-gay community," she says. "Who's going to take this film to parents and friends and co-workers except for the gay people themselves?"

"I CAN'T MARRY YOU" IS CERTAINLY a great tool for that. It is thoroughly researched, informative, journalistically sound and balanced. Gray even includes quotes from conservative Christians about why they oppose gay marriage.

The couples she found to interview are diverse and loving. Their touching, funny and sad stories put a distinctly human face on this ongoing debate. Many couples — regardless of sexual orientation— should see their relationships reflected on screen.

It doesn't explore a lot of new territory, but "I Can't Marry You" is still a powerful tool in the fight for civil rights.

MORE INFO

'I Can't Marry You'
June 24, 10:30 p.m.
WPBA

Final Release
Only 7 Homes Remain
Live. Love. Laugh.
New Condominiums from the Mid-$300s to Mid-$400s
LIVE in a fabulous new condominium community. LOVE the amenities and charming "walk-to" neighborhood of downtown Decatur. LAUGH without a care in the world. At The Clairemont, it's all about loving life.
2003 AWARD WINNING COMMUNITY of the YEAR
POOL • FITNESS CENTER • CLUB ROOM • MEDIA ROOM • WALK TO DECATUR SQUARE
417 CLAIREMONT AVE. Downtown Decatur
404.377.0068
the CLAIREMONT
ELEGANT SOUTHERN HOMES

KYMCO
Moto Bravo
The Best of Yesterday and Today
TNG
Financing available! 6 months same as cash!
*subject to approval
Some restrictions apply.
Kymco Super 9
50 cc's $2,599
Twist N' Go Venice
50 cc's $1,199
Stella
Vintage Vespa
call for price/availability
Genuine Stella
150cc's $2,899
2303-B Peachtree Rd NE Atlanta, GA 30309
404-350-8388
www.motobravo.com

GAY DVD/VIDEO
MAGAZINES RENTAL/SALES
TOBACCO
TOYZ 4 LOVERS
LOLLIPOP
ADULT TREATS
OPEN 24/7
GAY FRIENDLY
FALCON, TITAN AND STUDIO 2000
LUBES AND OILS
3165 ROSWELL RD.
ATLANTA, GA 30305
404.816.8299
W PACES FERRY RD NW
ROSWELL RD NE
PEACHTREE RD NE
BUCKHEAD

dish There's a Fine Line Between Telling the Truth and Talking Trash

Gay candidates for president don't include local man, the arms race continues, and **Liz** sort of wins in court.

Running without Graham

ATLANTA'S **JEFF GRAHAM** FOUND out last week that he won't have to be ready for his television close-up.

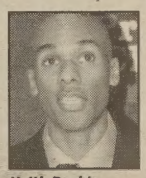
The executive director of AIDS Survival Project, who had a recent turn in local theater in the gay play "Love! Valour! Compassion!," was also vying for one of 12 spots on the Showtime reality show, "American Candidate," which airs as a 10-episode set beginning Aug. 1.

The show, filming now, attempts to identify regular-folk candidates for president and follow their campaigns. The 12 finalists make fake runs for the highest office in the land, with someone being eliminated each week.

Some candidates will be kicked off the campaign trail based on how they perform in political scenarios, but viewers can also call in votes for their favorite candidates "American Idol" style.

At the end of the series, the final candidate wins $200,000 and the chance to address the nation through a major media outlet.

Even without Graham, gay candidates are in the mix, including political daughter **CHRISSY GEPHARDT** and activist **KEITH BOYKIN**. Boykin and Gephardt each sent out a written statement asking supporters and friends to show up to their first "campaign" event.



Keith Boykin

The candidates with the fewest number of attendees at their first event will be booted from the show.

For Graham, just trying to make the show was reward enough, he says.

"I can now devote the next several months towards working on the real issues I care so much about," Graham says. "Fighting the anti-gay marriage amendment, working for single-payer health care and supporting the amazing work that transforms lives here at AIDS Survival Project every day.

"I certainly had fun," he says.

Jeff Graham, an Atlanta AIDS activist, won't be one of the presidential hopefuls on Showtime's 'American Candidate,' freeing him to continue activism close to his heart and closer to home. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

Size tsars

The Cold War was basically the Soviet Union and the U.S. fighting over who had bigger, er, missiles.

OK, it was more complicated than that. But even though the war is over, there is still some Cold War penis envy floating about, at least when it comes to the "missiles" of **RASPUTIN** and **NAPOLEON**.

Yes, the preserved penis of Grigory Rasputin, the famous Russian cleric, court lover and adviser to tsar Nicholas II, is now on display in the Russian Museum of Erotica. The museum recently opened in St. Petersberg, according to the Russian newspaper Nezavisimaya Gazeta.

"Having this exhibit, we can stop envying America, where Napoleon Bonaparte's penis is now kept," Igor Knyazkin, chief of the prostate research center of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, told the paper. "Napoleon's penis is but a small 'pod.' It cannot stand comparison to our organ of 30 centimeters."

Dish is hoping that neither dismembered member can "stand" at all anymore.

For the curious, 30 centimeters is equal to about 12 inches.

Finding good help

Screen legend and AIDS activist **ELIZABETH TAYLOR** settled a wrongful termination lawsuit last week with her former gardener of 10 years, according to the Associated Press.

The gardener, Millem Van Muyden, claimed he was fired without being paid $294,000 that Taylor owed him. Van Muyden contended that Taylor's butler, Jean-Luc Lacquement, urged her to fire him after he rebuffed Lacquement's sexual advances.

Elizabeth Taylor

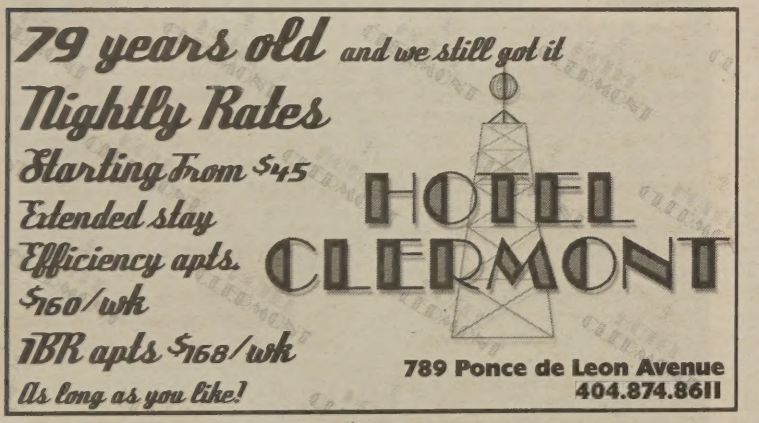
Terms of the settlement were not made public, but Taylor's lawyer told the AP that no monetary damages were awarded. A ruling on Van Muyden's legal expenses is pending.

Send comments, suggestions to Dish@sovo.com.

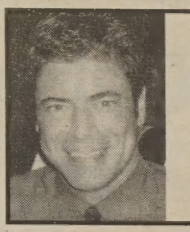
FROM THE DEVELOPERS OF METROPOLIS
ECLIPSE
BUCKHEAD
SALES CENTER INCLUDES DECORATED MODEL HOME
Eclipse. Elevate to a higher standard.
Envision your premium features, standard in each home.
Granite Countertops Stainless Steel Appliances
The Quality of Concrete and Steel Construction
Expand your horizon.
Spacious Floorplans with 10-Foot Ceilings
Floor-to-Ceiling Windows Offering Panoramic Views of Atlanta
Experience convenience and peace of mind.
24 Hour Concierge Controlled Access
Enjoy your social amenities.
Elevated Outdoor Terrace with Pool
State-of-the-Art Fitness and Club Room
Explore the best of Buckhead.
Premier Shopping Enticing Restaurants
Exciting Entertainment
1 Bedrooms $150's – $220's | 2 Bedrooms $240's – $300's
404.949.9967
250 Pharr Road | Sales Center Now Open M-F 10-6; Sat 10-5; Sun 12-5
www.eclipsebuckhead.com
WOOD
NOVARE GROUP
Prices and availability are subject to change without notice.

Friendly 24/7 Customer Service (800) 289.1489 © 2004 PC LLC • 18+

MegaMates.com
Enjoy the next generation of Internet Dating FREE!
Live Video / Audio / Text Chat
Create, Send & View Videos
Totally Private • No Ads Or Pop-Ups
© 2004 Progressive Web LLC Friendly Customer Care 24/7 (800) 289.1489
MegaMates.com



Professional Services Directory



Greg Sterchi, LPC
COUNSELING & PSYCHOTHERAPY
CONVENIENT INTOWN LOCATION
404.625.9795
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION • SLIDING SCALE

out vs. in
{ historically, it's better to stick it out with the market instead of cashing in. }

•Russell Clarke, MBA, CFP® Financial Advisor
•Marta Shen, JD, CPA, CFP® Financial Advisor

Call today for a complimentary initial consultation:
404.591.2466

- Investments
- Income Tax Manangement
- Estate Planning
- Domestic Partner Planning
- Real Estate Investment Analysis
- Risk protection
- Retirement

Shen, Clarke & Associates
financial advisory branch of American Express Financial Advisors
825 Juniper Street, NE, Atlanta, GA 30308

American Express Financial Advisors Inc. Member NASD. American Express Company is separate from American Express Financial Advisors Inc. and is not a broker-dealer. (c)2002 American Express Financial Corporation. All rights reserved.

Most Excellent Electric
Your Full Service Electrician
- Quality Electrical Repair
- Outlets, Switches & Ceiling Fans
- House Rewiring
- Additions

Eric Johnson
Lic. Master Electrician
cell 678.642.8292
770.934.9119

ISRAEL TARLTON P.C.
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

JAMES W. TARLTON, IV
AND JOHN M. ISRAEL
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

A COMMUNITY LAW FIRM OFFERING A FULL RANGE OF SERVICES INCLUDING DUI AND CRIMINAL DEFENSE, FAMILY LAW & PARTNERSHIP DISSOLUTIONS, REAL ESTATE CLOSINGS, AND ESTATE PLANNING.
404.815.9009
1447 PEACHTREE STREET, SUITE 400
ATLANTA, GA 30309
www.israelattorney.com
PROUD TO BE PART OF THE "ATLANTA FAMILY"

REY RONALDO
HAIR SALON
Full service salon
Professional hair stylist
404.320.0038
2350 Cheshire Bridge Rd.
Ste. 202
Atlanta, GA 30324

MY FAVORITE MECHANIC, INC. IS A WOMAN

FULL service/repair
ALL models
foreign/domestic
404/371-9912
1618 DEKALB AVE

PAIGE NORWOOD JENNINGS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
PARTNER PACKAGE
$499
- 2 simple wills
- 2 living wills
- 2 health care powers of attorney
- 2 financial powers of attorney

- MEDIATION
- DIVORCE
- CUSTODY
- NAME CHANGES

404-350-9092
http://www.paigejennings.com

DOGGIE DAY CARE BOARDING GROOMING
PIEDMONT BARK
WWW.PIEDMONTBARK.COM
"WHERE EVERYDAY IS A DAY IN THE PARK"
501 AMSTERDAM AVE. ATLANTA, GA 404.873.5400

eclipse

Dramas about black gay life struggle to find network support

BLACK GAYS continued from Page 43

that the Big Three networks receive, he notes.

There aren't any dramas on television — straight, gay or otherwise — that feature a majority of black characters. Communities of color tend to be overly represented in situation comedies, Tropiano adds.

"It all comes down to economics and demographics," says Tropiano, who directs Ithaca's communications program in Los Angeles. "They're all going after a certain consumer, income and class. It also comes down to who they feel their audience is, and race is sometimes considered."

The success of "The Closet" and "Noah's Arc," among other programs about black gays, depends on marketing, Tropiano says. It's up to the shows' creators to spread the word about their product. But fortunately, it's easy to reach gay audiences with their message because of the gay media, Gay Pride festivals and gay organizations nationwide, Tropiano says.

RATED R FOR ITS EXPLICIT LANGUAGE and sexual situations, "The Closet" takes place in Baltimore, Towne's hometown. The first episode is about an upcoming wedding between Jeffrey (Dheeaba Donghrer) and his fiancée Harriet (Sylvia Hudson), a rich socialite who's completely unaware that her future husband sleeps with other men.

In the opening scene, Jeffrey is literally in the closet with an unidentified man, while his wife-to-be is footsteps away at their wedding rehearsal. She has no clue that her future husband's appetite for sex with men is insatiable.

Other characters in "The Closet" include Brandon (Willie Melton) and Emory (Shannon Crawford), a gay couple of 12 years who is raising a son, Tyler (Christopher Tavarez). Isaiah (Preston Horne) portrays a closeted doctor on the program, Zachary (Kevin Allen) is a radio personality on the down-low, and Nicholas (T. Bernard Coleman) is openly gay.

Townes says he created "The Closet" to educate heterosexual black women about black men on the down-low that are contributing to the spread of HIV. He says he also created the program to help shatter myths and stereotypes about homosexuality.

So don't expect to see high camp on "The Closet."

"There are no flamboyant men in the show that have major speaking parts — not that there's anything wrong with that," Townes says. "It's just that Hollywood has done all of that."

IN LOS ANGELES, THE CREATORS OF "Noah's Arc" are touting it as a cross between HBO's "Sex and the City," and Showtime's "Queer as Folk" and "Soul Food," a contemporary drama about an African-American family in Chicago.

"My primary goal is to entertain, first and foremost [to] tell a good story," Polk says. "And in the course of that, hopefully, people get educated about different things."

Mississippi native **Patrik-Ian Polk** wrote and directed 'Punks,' a feature film released in 2001 about a group of black gay friends. He currently is working on 'Noah's Arc,' a made-for-television drama that looks at the life and times of four black gay men in Los Angeles.

Polk, a native of Mississippi, graduated from Brandeis University. He also studied at the University of Southern California School of Cinema-Television and has worked in the entertainment industry for Amblin Entertainment and for Edmonds Entertainment/e2 filmworks.

"Noah's Arc" tackles serious themes such as AIDS and same-sex relationships, but it also serves up heavy doses of wit and humor. In a trailer available online at www.noahsarc.net, Noah (Darryl Stephens), a struggling Hollywood screenwriter, is dating Wade (Jensen Atwood), a man in his first same-sex relationship who isn't sure if he's gay or bisexual.

Other characters include Ricky (Christian Vincent), a clothing storeowner who is constantly cruising, Chance (Doug Spearman), a college professor and new dad, and tell-it-like-it-is Alex, an HIV counselor (Rodney Chester) who jealously guards his handsome boyfriend Trey (Gregory Keith).

Polk says "Noah's Arc" pushes the envelope when it comes to discussing black same-sex romance and life.

"Why be namby-pamby about it?" he asks. "There is nudity and sex scenes, and we pull no punches. If anyone is shocked and feeble-minded, then this isn't the show for them because we bring it full on from episode one."

Those who have seen "The Closet" generally applaud the creators' efforts. Black gay activist Keith Boykin says on his Web site, www.keithboykin.com, that while the actors are talented and attractive, the story suffers from "wooden delivery of unnecessarily formal dialogue."

"The film's technical flaws are not easy to overlook, but fortunately they don't stop the plot from developing," he says. "The sound is often choppy and inconsistent, the outdoor lighting is off, and the music is a bit repetitive and distracting at times."

Visitors to Boykin's Web site also shared their views.

"I'm so thankful to see a television program dealing with gay men of color. It is almost as if we don't exist," one viewer wrote. "I enjoy movies and shows dealing with gay issues. But I get tired of not being represented as a black man."

Another viewer said Polk's decision to make a clip of "Noah's Arc" available online was amateurish.

In response, Polk apologized.

"In an effort to produce quality work, it was more important for us to allocate the bulk of our limited funds toward the actual production of the series," he says. "However, it was also important to us that we make some information available online as soon as possible, because we do not have unlimited corporate advertising dollars to promote awareness of the show. This is an independent, grass-roots production, and we are relying on all of you to spread the word."

ABC, CBS, NBC, UPN AND FOX — THE country's largest broadcast networks — currently do not offer programs with black gay characters, according to the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Discrimination.

GLAAD officials note that of the 12 gay characters on shows such as ABC's "NYPD Blue" and NBC's "ER," 10 are white. But these numbers don't reflect NBC's cancellation of "Coupling," a show about six 30-somethings in Chicago that included an Asian-American bisexual.

That deletion leaves only one gay person of color on network television: Filipino American Alec Mapa, who plays a wisecracking receptionist on UPN's "Half and Half," a comedy that airs Mondays and is about two African-American half-sisters.

On cable television networks, African Americans and people of color are somewhat more visible.

On HBO's "Six Feet Under," Matthew St. Patrick portrays Keith, a black gay man who now works as a security officer after his anger cost him a career as a police officer.

"The Wire," a crime series on HBO, features Omar, a black gay man and drug dealer, as well as narcotics detective Shakima (Kima Greggs), who plays a black lesbian. On "The Shield," a crime show on FX, Michael Jace portrays police officer Julien Lowe, a deeply religious married man struggling with his homosexuality.

C. Riley Snorton, GLAAD's media manager for communities of African descent, offered one reason for the lack of black gay characters on television programs.

"I think that white gay male images are often embraced much easier because they've had a longer history of being public and visible, both politically and in the entertainment industry," Snorton says.

So if a gay show with an all-white cast could be a hit, why not a similar show with an all-black ensemble, Polk and others are asking.

"I'm not a straight white female living in New York City, but I still enjoy 'Sex and the City,'" Polk says.

This also seemed reasonable to Townes when he approached one large cable network. He would not identify the network because he said he is still in negotiations with it about producing "The Closet." But Townes did say that the network liked the show's concept and offered him nearly $4 million — on one condition.

"They wanted to make three of the characters white, and we told them no, because it would change the element of the show," Townes said.

Townes says HBO, the Independent Film Channel and Oxygen are waiting to see how "The Closet" fares in the next six months before deciding whether to pick up the show. He said he plans to sell 100,000 DVD episodes of the show and then renegotiate with various cable networks.

A spokesperson for Oxygen said no one there recalled speaking with Townes about "The Closet." None of the other cable networks responded to inquiries by Southern Voice.

The first two episodes of "The Closet" are now available, and 24 more shows are scheduled for production. Episode lengths vary from 74 to 120 minutes. Townes says that in addition to purchasing each episode on DVD for $19.99 to $24.99, the full season can be purchased on the Internet for $360.

He says he plans to start a petition drive to persuade cable television networks to carry "The Closet." Townes says he plans to have the petition ready for signatures at Black Pride celebrations across the country, including Atlanta in August.

Unlike Townes, Polk says he's never shopped around for a network to buy "Noah's Arc."

"The main thing was trying to do it [without getting] network permission, approval or money," Polk says. "It was really about me taking control, taking the power and finding a way to create on my own terms."

The first season of "Noah's Arc" is set for DVD release this month, according to co-producer Jasmyne Cannick.

"Every two months, we're going to release another couple of episodes," she says. The show's first season includes six, 30-minute episodes. Each DVD is available on the Internet for $29.95.

MORE INFO

'Noah's Arc'
Tall Skinny Black Boy Productions
www.noahsarc.net

'The Closet'
Senwot Nella Productions, LLC
www.thecloset.tv
www.senwotnellafilms.com

We are committed to you.

the PROVIDENCE group
A Limited Liability Company

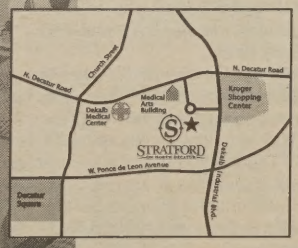
Oldfield
AT GRANT PARK

BROWNSTONES
FROM THE
$180's – $290's
Now Selling
Craftsman Style Architecture
Garages
2 & 3 Bedrooms
Maintenance-Free Condominium

404-622-7900

Take I-75/I-85 South. Turn left on I-20 and travel East. Turn right on Boulevard and travel South. Pass Zoo Atlanta and Grant Park on the right. Turn left on Mead Road and travel approx. 1/4 of a mile. Oldfield at Grant Park is directly ahead at the intersection of Mead Road and Gress Ave.

DECATUR'S HIDDEN GEM



Located on the corner of N. Decatur Rd. and Dekalb Industrial Blvd.
We're tucked away so call us for further details.

STRATFORD
ON NORTH DECATUR

Intown Condos from the
$150's – $250's

Grand Opening
Phase II

- 5 Decorated Models
- Swim/Clubhouse
- Fitness Center
- Gated Entrance
- Covered Parking

404.499.9917

Jolly Development, Inc.

www.the-providence-group.com

CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL HOME BUILDER

food SAM SANCHEZ

Even non-connoisseurs can enjoy white wine, and the best way to get acquainted with the varieties is to hold **personal taste testings.**

White wine for beginners

ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE ways to learn about white wine is simply to sample some. This is the best way to understand what's available on the market, where it comes from and what variety you like best.

Next time you are in a wine store, pick a few bottles of varying types of white wines and conduct your own tasting at home.

The following information offers a quick sketch of the most popular types of white wines. Each has a particular taste and character that makes it unique.

CHARDONNAY

Chardonnay is the principle white wine of Burgundy, France, where it originated. The Chardonnay grape is versatile and grown with success in most wine-growing areas under a variety of climates.

Chardonnay was the most sought after white grape through the 1990s. It can be made sparkling or still. Chardonnay has probably found it's way into almost every wine drinker's glass at one time or another. This is because it is planted almost everywhere wine grapes can be grown, does well in different climates, and has a history going back about 2000 years in France.

Food pairing: A good choice for fish and chicken dishes.

How it tastes: Chardonnay is often wider-bodied and more velvety than other types of dry whites, with rich citrus (lemon, grapefruit) flavors. Fermenting in new oak barrels adds a buttery tone (vanilla, toast, coconut, toffee). Chardonnay's popularity is in its flexibility to produce many different styles and flavors.

SAUVIGNON BLANC

Sauvignon Blanc is tart and tangy, zestier than Chardonnay. Most white wine drinkers appreciate Sauvignon Blanc for its clean, dry taste.

Sauvignon Blanc is of French origin and grown extensively in the Bordeaux district. New Zealand produces some excellent Sauvignon Blancs. However, some Australian Sauvignon Blancs, those grown in warmer areas, tend to be flat and lack fruit qualities.

Food pairing: A versatile wine for seafood, poultry and salads.

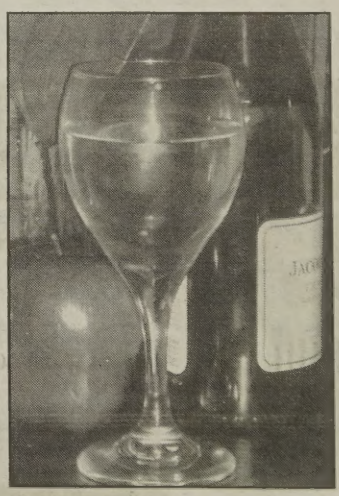
How it tastes: Sauvignon Blanc is generally lighter than Chardonnay. It normally has an herbal aroma suggesting bell pepper or freshly mown grass. Other flavors range from sour apple, pear and gooseberry through to tropical fruits of melon, mango and blackcurrant.

RIESLING

Riesling is an easy wine to enjoy and drink on its own. The fruitiness and balance of acids make this German native very popular. It is planted in many grape-growing areas around the world.

Riesling is the classic German grape of the Rhine and Mosel.

Germany's great Rieslings are usually made slightly sweet, with steely acidity for balance. Riesling from Alsace and the Eastern U.S are considered excellent, though usually made in a different style, aromatic but typically drier.



(Photo by Sam Sanchez)

California Rieslings are generally considered less successful, usually sweet without sufficient acidity for balance.

Food pairing: A dry Riesling goes well with fish, chicken and pork dishes.

How it tastes: Riesling expresses itself differently depending on the district and the winemaking techniques used.

GEWURZTRAMINER

Gewürztraminer is an aromatic variety that is often associated with Riesling, although it's not a related grape.

The wine is best known in Alsace, the West Coast and New York.

Food pairing: Gewürztraminer is ideal for sipping and with Asian food, pork and grilled sausages.

How it tastes: Gewürztraminer can have a fruity flavor with aromas of rose petal, peach, lychee and allspice. A Gewürztraminer seems often not as refreshing as other types of dry whites.

MUSCAT

More a family of grapes than a single variety, Muscat bears no relationship with the Muscadet wine. The grape grows in many warm climates. The Muscat grapes have a long heritage and a delicate scent of oranges. They make delicious, golden-hued white wines.

Food pairing: Muscat is best drunk on its own.

How it tastes: Muscat often sweet and always fruity, with a musky aroma reminiscent of grapefruit. Muscat wines are instantly recognizable to anyone who has tasted a Muscat table grape.

Other white wines

Chenin Blanc is a nice wine for casual drinking or as an aperitif before dinner. It is often used as a blending grape. To experience the full honeyed taste of Chenin Blanc look for wines from France's Loire region, where the grape grows best.

In Italy, white varieties such as **Garganega** (used in Soave) and **Pinot Grigio** make respectable day-to-day white wines.

Pinot Blanc, a white cousin of Pinot Noir, is an austere, full-bodied wine that excels in Oregon, California and Alsace.

Defying conventions

The old adage that says that red wine goes with red meat and white wine with white meat should be taken with a dash of salt.

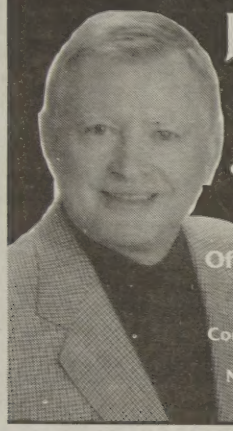
These days, diners are discovering new wine and food combinations that put to rest such outdated conventions. The best way to determine if a particular wine is good with a certain type of food is experiment. You never know what you might discover and enjoy.

REAL ESTATE DIRECTORY, **Page 66** CLASSIFIEDS, **Page 74** CARTOONS, **Page 75, 76**

FOR HOT, GAY PHONE SEX CALL NOW!!
10-10-735-0 ext 2539 • $1.57 per min
FOR XXX HOT, GAY PHONE SEX
10-10-735-011-5611-9855
$2.99 per min
EXPLORE YOUR BI-SEXUAL FANTASIES!
1-800-279-BUNS (2867)
TV/TS'S! LIVE 1 ON 1
1-800-742-TVTS(8887)
HOT SEXY TRANNIES!
1-888-909-TVTS(8887)
from 69¢/ min
HOT WILD PHONE TALK!
10-10-735-011-56-11-2799
$2.99/ min
OR 1-212-986-1777
TV/TS SEX SHOP!
Visit us @ the E.46, NYC boutique or go to
WWW.CROSSDRESSING.WS
1-212-697-0644
www.MICHAELSALEM.com
18+

Real Estate Directory

Great Oak
Mortgage Corporation



Jim Icenhour

Serving the mortgage and real estate needs of the Atlanta community since 1979
CALL TODAY!

Office: 404-237-7600
VM: 404-690-2012

Conforming Loans • FHA & VA
Special Situations
New Purchase • Equity Lines

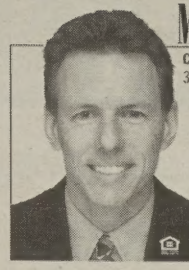
Georgia Residential Mortgage Licensee

Guess Who's INTOWN?

ATLANTA INTOWN
Welcomes Sallye, Danielle and Dixie!

Sallye Parsons	Danielle Belva	Dixie Card
770.849.2636	770.849.2698	770.849.2606
SallyeParsons @AtlantaIntown.com	DanielleBelva @AtlantaIntown.com	DixieCard @AtlantaIntown.com

ATLANTA INTOWN REAL ESTATE SERVICES
181 Tenth Street N.E., Atlanta 30309 404.881.1810
WWW.ATLANTAINTOWN.COM



MARK CHERNESKY
COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE
3650 Habersham Rd., Suite 201, Atlanta, GA 30305
OFFICE PHONE: 404.262.1234
FAX NUMBER: 404.262.1658
VOICE MAIL: 404.495.4661
CELL PHONE: 404.966.6599
MARK.CHERNESKY@COLDWELLBANKERATLANTA.COM
WWW.COLDWELLBANKERATLANTA.COM
WEB-SITE: MARKCHERNESKY.REALTOR.COM

WHEN REAL ESTATE NEEDS CALL FOR A PROFESSIONAL

CALL JAZZ
BOUDREAUX
www.calljazz.com
OFFICE: 678-686-0615
CELL: 404-234-6372

HARRY NORMAN, REALTORS
1531 PIEDMONT RD NE • ATL, GA 30324
DALE MODICA / BROKER
404-897-3556 / HARRYNORMAN.COM

Ann Saucier, CRS
Seventeen Years Experience

Lynn Shepodd
Third Generation Realtor

Great Service in Real Estate
404.892.2586
www.annandlynn.com

RE/MAX metro atlanta
Each Re/Max office is individually owned and operated.

Specializing in East Point, College Park and Hapeville

CRANFORD HOMES & REALTY

Scott Eaves Realtor
404.518.3820 DIRECT
scott_eaves@joimail.com
www.cranfordhomesrealty.com

upshaw financial associates llc

Custom-tailored mortgage services...

Jef Blocker | Loan Specialist
Direct (770) 364-5585 Office (770) 992-3034
875 Old Roswell Rd., Bldg. F #100, Roswell, GA 30076
jef@upshawfinancial.com | www.upshawfinancial.com
Georgia Licensed Residential Mortgage Broker, Georgia License #13950

Hey Atlanta....Come On Over to Our Side

of VOLVO South Atlanta

Anthony Blount
678.610.4846
anthonyblount@yahoo.com

Where Luxury is Affordable!
Complimentary Airport Parking While We Service Your Car

All New S40
Only $23,249

Lease from just $279 per month

All New XC90
$35,987

Lease from $398 per month

All New S80 T6
MSRP $46,810

Save Over $9500!
Only $37,274

48 month lease with $2,500 due at start, plus first payment,tax, tag, & title.
No security deposit required with approved credit.

Great Pre-Owned Values!

'00 Volvo S-70 CERTIFIED	'01 Volvo V70 ASR CERTIFIED 100K Warranty	'01 Volvo V70 LOADED, LOW MILES	'01 Volvo V40 CERTIFIED LOADED, MOONROOF
$17,967 #PO306	$17,967 #PO304	$20,989 #PO316A	$17,948 #PO318
'03 Volvo S-80 T-6 CERTIFIED	'02 Volvo V40 LOW MILES	'03 Volvo S-40 CERTIFIED	'00 HONDA CRV 4WD Nice!!
$30,937 #PO325	$18,773 #4233A	$18,913 #PO320	$12,997 #4284A

Certified Volvo Vehicles come with a 3 year, 100,000 total mile Warranty. Complimentary Service Loaners and Roadside Assistance for the warranty period.

4015 Jonesboro Road, Union City
Right Off I-85 Exit 64 (1 mile East)

678-610-4846

on the web @ www.volvoofsouthatlanta.com

Professional Services Directory

continued from page 62

Cosmetic
Reconstruction
Implants
General

Scott D. Neal, DDS
404.471.1595
1610 LaVista Rd NE
Atlanta, GA 30329
We File Insurance

"AUTO. HOME. LIFE. ME."

CHRISTOPHER TULLY
1830 PIEDMONT RD #E
ATLANTA
(404) 873 3794
a073710@allstate.com

Allstate.
You're in good hands.

Subject to availability and qualifications. Insurance offered with select companies. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Allstate Insurance Company and Allstate Life Insurance Company: Northbrook, Illinois © 2003 Allstate Insurance Company.

Ultimate MAID SERVICE
Homes Offices Party Clean-up
Move In/Move Out
Appointments or Quotes Call:
Mary Lynn Gonzalez, Mon-Sat. 9-8
770.638.7834 Licensed-Bonded-Insured

LAWYER REFERRAL
All Legal Matters
• Personal Injury
• Auto Accidents
• Criminal Defense
• DUI/Traffic
• Bankruptcy
• Martial/Family Law
• Hurt On The Job
• Immigration
A-A-A ATTORNEY REFERRAL SERVICE
Call 24 Hours
1-800-260-1546

OFFSITE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
We are the Administration Queens!
Office Support for the Small Business
• Bookkeeping
• Office Administration
• Research
Call: 404.249.9979

JIM Ellis
Expect the best
NEW | CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

Drivers Wanted
5901 PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BLVD.
ATLANTA,
GA 30341
770.458.6811
ED DOWLEN
YOUR 'FAMILY' VW REPRESENTATIVE
Please mention you saw it in Southern Voice
Your Intown VW Dealer

Leaving your job?
What will you do with your 401(k)? What *should* you do?
Learn your options.

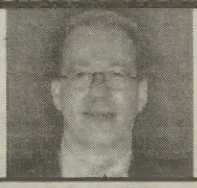
TONY R. PRUITT, AAMS
FINANCIAL CONSULTANT
6455 E. JOHN'S CROSSING, STE. 125
DULUTH, GA 30097
(770) 622-0660, EXT. 245
Member SIPC • 2003 A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.
Call to order your copy of A.G. Edwards' free report: "Take It, Leave It, Move It or Roll It."
A.G. Edwards
INVESTMENTS SINCE 1887

Think of us as a matchmaker...
between you and the car you want.
netcarnow.com
We will personally find THE CAR for you, any make, any model.
Trade-Ins Welcome • $500 over true wholesale
BMW • AUDI • MERCEDES • LAND ROVER • JAGUAR • HONDA • VW • LEXUS
Adam Parker
678.571.7133
www.netcarnow.com

Wonderwalls
Over 20 years of experience
Fabulous Faux Finish
Traditional to Contemporary
770.552.0564
Walls | Concrete Floors | Furniture

TELL THEM
YOU FOUND THEM IN
THE DIRECTORY

FINANCIAL PROBLEMS?
Obtain Debt Relief Now!



KEITH EADY
& ASSOCIATES, LLC
404.633.1997
Chapter 7 & 13 Bankruptcy
Stop: • Foreclosure
• Collection Calls
• Repossessions
• Garnishments
Eliminate or Reduce Debts

DANA SHIVALIER
AGENT
1874 PIEDMONT RD. NE
SUITE 370C
ATLANTA, GA 30324
OFF: 404.892.0101
FAX: 404.892.3010
STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES
Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.
HOME OFFICES: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

PAINT & HOME REPAIR
30 YEARS EXPERIENCE
• Carpentry
• Sheetrock
• Plaster Repair
• Tile
Call John
404.274.1468

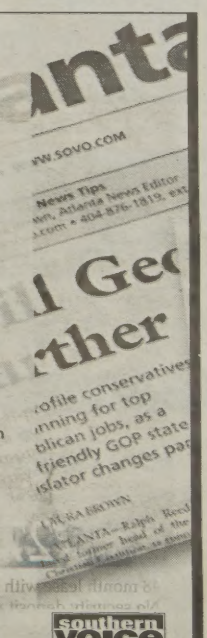
DURAN'S
Septic & Plumbing Repairs
Anykind of Plumbing & Septic Problem Anytime

24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE
Septic: 770.972.7788
Plumbing: 770.673.9033
$25 OFF with coupon

15% OFF
PAINT and/or TILE

Life on the Go ?
Pick up your copy of Southern Voice at one of the following Marta Stations.

Ansley Marta Stop
Arts Center Marta
Avondale Marta
Bankhead Marta
Brookhaven Marta #2
Brookhaven Marta Station
Buckhead Marta Station
Candler Park Marta
Civic Center Marta
College Park Marta Station
Decatur Marta
Doraville Marta Station
Downtown Marta
Dunwoody Marta
East Lake Marta
East Point Marta
GSU Marta
Indian Creek Marta
Inman Park Marta Station
Kensington Marta
King Memorial Marta
Lenox Marta Station
Medical Center Marta Station
Midtown Marta
North Ave. Marta
West Lake Marta Station



southern voice

Real Estate Directory continued from page 66

HOMESIDE MORTGAGE, LLC

We say no to business as usual. Others just say no.

- 100% home or investment
- Stated-NoDoc-Conventional
- Interest only option
- Rates from 1.25% with payment options
- Commercial-state your income
- Rely on 20 years of experience

GREG MARTIN
3278 Cherokee St.
Kennesaw, GA 30144
Phone: 678.290.8449
homesidemortgage@bellsouth.com
Georgia Residential Mortgage License #16417

Jodi & Chase

JODI PATTERSON & CHASE JORDAN
REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS
404.888.0602

HARRY NORMAN REALTORS
Dale Mochon, Managing Broker
Intown Office: 404-237-3152
1111 Piedmont Rd.
Atlanta, GA 30324
Equal Housing Opportunity
www.harrynorman.com

the Hunt's over!

the hunter group
www.HouseHunterAtlanta.com

"The best investment on earth is earth. We sell earth, and people dig that."

Hunter Realtor
Hunter@HouseHunterAtlanta.com
(404) 564.3512

KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY INTOWN ATLANTA

Michelle Davis Realtor
Michelle@HouseHunterAtlanta.com
(404) 564.3512

Each KellerWilliams® Realty office is independently owned and operated

jodie elkins

MAKE REAL MONEY with REAL ESTATE

Specializing in helping individuals build their real estate investment portfolios.

Agent Referrals Welcome!
HUD Home buyer's Agent

3500 Lenox Road Ste. 1500
Atlanta, GA 30326
404.808.9357
jodieelkins@hotmail.com

REAL ESTATE investments

COLDWELL BANKER
THE CONDO STORE
Midtown
900 Peachtree Street at Eighth St
404-292-6636 • www.condostore.com

Looking for an Intown Home? Or Are You Ready to Sell? Call Atlanta's experts in condos, lofts, luxury high-rises, cluster and townhomes. We Can Help!

Agent: Norma Palus

Contact Tim Larson For Your Home Mortgage Or Refinancing Solutions

Tim Larson
HomeBanc Mortgage Consultant
404.497.1280 direct
404.403.9500 cell
Apply Online: homebanc.com/tlarson
Email: tlarson@homebanc.com

Central Atlanta Store
2002 Summit Blvd., Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30319

HOMEBANC

CINDY TREADWAY
EXCLUSIVE BUYERS AGENT

cindy@bobridgeport.com
404.217.2388

Intown Specialist | Superior Service | Hands On Approach

Christy Reece

706.633.7862 | 770.924.6681
Christy.Reece@century21pros.net
www.ChristyReece.com
Century 21

From The City To The Mountains and everywhere in between

"The greatest and sublimest power is simple patience"-Horace Bushnell

Patience gives you the power to choose. I'm here to help you make the right move, not rush you into the wrong one.

ReMax Greater Atlanta | 404.609.9898
JOHN PETROU
www.johnpetrou.com
RE/MAX

Your Dream House

We find your dreams
Exclusive Buyer Agents of Atlanta
Robert Cooper • 404.313.2171
Chris Colbert • 404.522.2747
www.weknowatlanta.com

Member | Atlanta Board of Realtors
National Association of Exclusive Buyer Agents
National Association of Realtors

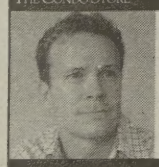
GBL FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INVESTMENT
GRML 14159

SERVING THE GAY & LESBIAN INDUSTRY FOR 30 YEARS

Jim Fleming:
770-853-1111 (cell)
Hamid Barkah:
678-773-4667 (cell)

6375-H Spalding Drive • Norcross, GA
(770) 246-1755
www.gblfs.com

COLDWELL BANKER
THE CONDO STORE
Midtown
900 Peachtree Street at Eighth St
404-292-6636 • www.condostore.com

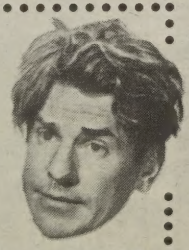


Looking for an Intown Home? Or Are You Ready to Sell? Call Atlanta's experts in condos, lofts, luxury high-rises, cluster and townhomes. We Can Help!

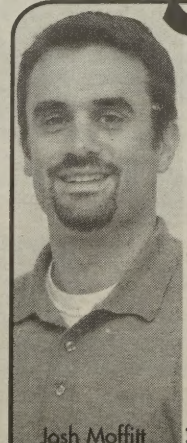
Agent: James McMahel

Confused?

Looking for a New Home and can't figure out where you want to live? Call one of the professional real estate agents listed here.



Just Around the Corner SILVERTON MORTGAGE SPECIALISTS, Inc.



A Unique Mortgage Experience

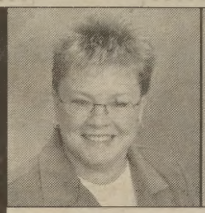
404.815.0291
814 Juniper St.
www.silvertonmortgage.com

Josh Moffitt

Georgia Residential Mortgage Licensee

Real Estate Directory

CONNIE TAYLOR



DARRELL CLARKE

404.644.3339
c.taylor@century21.com
www.CTaylorSellsHomes.com

770.345.2704
darrell.clarke@century21.com
www.CallitYourHome.com

SERVING
COBB, FULTON, CHEROKEE
AND EVERYTHING
IN BETWEEN

Century 21 PROFESSIONAL REALTY GROUP

770.720.2121

COLDWELL BANKER
THE CONDO STORE

Midtown
900 Peachtree Street at Eighth St.
404-292-6636 • www.condostore.com

Looking for an Intown Home?
Or Are You Ready to Sell?
Call Atlanta's experts in condos, lofts, luxury high-rises, cluster and townhomes. We Can Help!

Agent: Joel Madden

MORTGAGE 1st
Mortgage Loan Professionals

Eric Gilam
Mortgage Loan Officer

2255 Cumberland Pkwy • Bldg 1892 Suite B
Atlanta,Georgia 30339 • ph (770) 432-7766
www.mortgage1stgeorgia.com

WWW.CHRISSELLSHOMES.COM

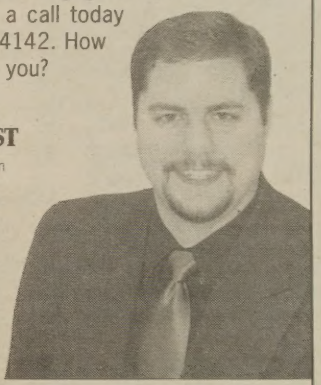
Still Selling
After All These Years!
Chris Carroll
RE/MAX
Phoenix Award Winner

RE/MAX METRO ATLANTA • 770.849.2607

Let Brian help you finance your home with SunTrust Mortgage.

Get to know J. Brian Crawford. Brian is committed to serving Atlanta's diverse, in-town community. Whether you are buying a single-family home, loft or condominium, he can help you determine the mortgage that's best for you. Visit his website at www.suntrustmortgage.com/bcrawford, or give him a call today at 770-551-4142. How can we help you?

SUNTRUST
www.suntrust.com



Equal Housing Lender. SunTrust Mortgage, Inc., 901 Semmes Avenue, Richmond, VA 23224 ©2003, SunTrust Banks, Inc. SunTrust is a federally registered service mark of SunTrust Banks, Inc. all 29403

marcierealestate.com
RE/MAX Metro Atlanta

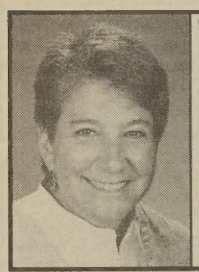
Stop by my website for:
Buying/Selling Tips
Featured Listings
Property Inquiry
Apply Online
AND MUCH MORE!

ASK ABOUT MY FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS PROGRAM!

photo: Tim Wilkinson

Marcie McKemie
Over 13 years Sales & Marketing Experience
404.580.6273
marciem@remax.net
marcierealestate.com

MLS



When Buying or Selling Your Home ...
Call Jerrilyn Levetan
In-Town Residential Specialist
... Because YOU Deserve the Best!
RE/MAX Metro Atlanta
Office: 404.371.4419
Toll Free: 800.226.3123
janda11@mindspring.com
www.jerrandandy.com

WILL LOVETT Sales Associate
BUSINESS | 404.874.2262
FAX | 404.873.5254
VOICE MAIL | 404.327.4869
CELL | 678.613.6672
WILL.LOVETT@COLDWELLBANKERATLANTA.COM
INTOWN OFFICE | 1370 N. HIGHLAND AVE.
ATLANTA, GA 30306

COLDWELL BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Owned and Operated By NRT Incorporated.

Arkie Clark
Loan Officer
Max
PR

Time to buy a little dirt?
With a house on it?
We have a loan for you!

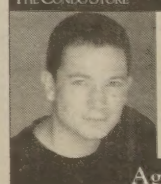
Off: 404-237-7600
VM: 404-680-1816

GREAT OAK
MORTGAGE CORPORATION
Georgia Residential Mortgage Licensee

LANNIE HALL
experienced, loyal & effective
678.886.8850
www.lanniehall.com

COLDWELL BANKER
THE CONDO STORE

Buckhead
3221 Peachtree Rd. • Atlanta, Ga 30305
404-262-6636 • www.condostore.com



Looking for an Intown Home?
Or Are You Ready to Sell?
Call Atlanta's experts in condos, lofts, luxury high-rises, cluster and townhomes. We Can Help!

Agent: Richard Moye

Pensacola and the Beaches

BR Bears Realty
Pensacola, FL

Mark Lee
850.261.1996 - labnlee@aol.com

Paula Needle Penny Sherrill
Jayson Janowski

RE/MAX
Metro Atlanta, Inc.
1944 Clairmont Rd
Atlanta, GA 30033

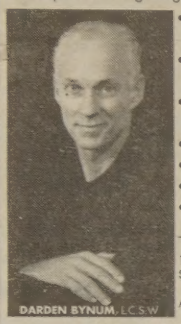
Jayson/direct 404.502.0355
Paula/direct 678.644.1034
Penny/direct 404.210.8041
www.pennyandpaula.com

Jerry Arrasmith, ABR
404-277-1870 Your Intown Specialist
Prudential Atlanta Realty
Top Listing Agent Intown Office 2003
INTOWN SPECIALIST
www.jerryarrasmith.prudentialgeorgia.com
Grant Park | Midtown | Inman Park | Candler Park | Decatur

Mind, Body & Spirit Directory

HOLISTIC PSYCHOTHERAPY

DARDEN BYNUM, M.A., M.S.W., is a holistic psychotherapist with over 30 years of experience integrating mind, body & spirit.



- Abuse and victimization
- Gay, lesbian and sexual issues
- Developmental Abilities
- Eating Disorders
- Grief and loss
- Depression
- Anxiety

1758 CENTURY BLVD, NE. SUITE B (NEAR I-85/CLAIRMONT) ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30345

404.633.2000

Diane Hughes,LCSW,Ph.D.

Counseling and Psychotherapy
Individual or Relationship issues
Understanding and Experienced
in working with
Alternative Lifestyles

I85 and Cheshire Bridge/N.Druid Hills
404-329-2050

BOB FEIL, DDS

COSMETIC & GENTLE DENTISTRY
FOR THE FAMILY ▽

Now In Our New Location:
107 West Paces Ferry Rd. NE Suite 150 • Atlanta, GA • 404.233.6488

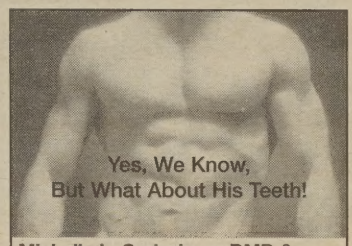
Becky Liddle, Ph.D.
Counseling Psychologist

Lesbian therapist providing affordable counseling to the LGBT community.

- Evening hours available
- Phone inquiries welcome, to determine if I'm a good match for your needs

404-374-4927

Jim Thomason, CNMT
404.441.7648
Credit Cards Accepted



Michelle L. Greissinger DMD &
Richard M. Hooker DDS

- Comprehensive Dental Service
- Routine Cleanings and Exam
- Restorations ■ Crown and Bridge
- Opalescence Tooth Whitening System
- Home Bleaching Refills

Most Insurance Accepted
Convinient Midtown Location
In Eckerds Building at Ansley Square
1512 Piedmont Avenue NE Suite 202 ■ Atlanta, GA 30324
404.873.2957

LaVista
Reproductive
Resources

- *Donor Insemination for All Women*
- *Prenatal, Childbirth Education Classes*
- *Warm, Supportive Atmosphere*

2187 Northlake Parkway
Building 9, Suite 35
Tucker, GA 30084

For information, call 770/491-1304
Nancy Pihera, Director

Dr. Kristy Francavilla
Dr. Shoshana Kreinces

50% OFF Initial Visit Including any Necessary X-Rays

Good Thru Pride Weekend

LIVE WELL CHIROPRACTIC
404-235-0995
2345-5 Cheshire Bridge next to Tara Theatres

Gay Owned & Operated

Serving Our Community for Over 5 Years

www.livewellchiropractic.com

It's Time to Quit!

If you have ever considered or tried giving up cigarettes,and as yet have not...

Please Call Diana Rodriguez,
National Certified Counselor
678.290.1337 or 678.770.2416
itstimetoquitnow@yahoo.com
Counseling and Hypnotherapy
The Mandorla Center (Windy Hill and Powers Ferry Road)
Experience the freedom that comes along with being a non-smoker

Where Your Dreams Can Come True...

Donor Insemination Services
A Lesbian-Facilitated Program at the
FEMINIST WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER

- Optimizing Fertility by On-Site Ultrasound Technology
- 25 years healthcare experience
- Supportive, caring environment
- Fertility & Prenatal Education
- Partner participation encouraged

580 14th St., NW, Atlanta
Call Gail: 404-874-7551 ext. 118
gailp@atlfwhc.org

Keep Your Bite Bright!
Nancy M. Stewart, D.D.S., P.C.
General and Cosmetic Dentistry
New Patients Welcome
Serving Emory-Decatur Areas
2754 N. Decatur Rd., Ste. 111, Decatur, GA
(404) 299-0123

Edward O. Nix, M.D.
Board Certified Psychiatrist

Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy for Major Growth/Transitions. Years of experience in Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual issues. Gay men's therapy group

2711 Irvin Way, Suite 211 • Decatur, GA 30030
404-501-0001

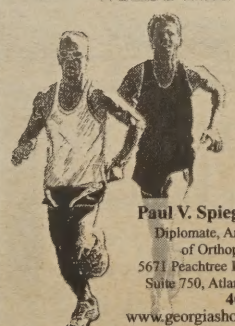
Lenox Eye Associates
OPTOMETRISTS

Providing quality eye care in Atlanta for over 15 years. Specializing in Primary Eye Care, Contact Lenses and Laser Vision Correction.

Dr. Alan Hymowitz

404.239.0272 Lenox Square Mall
Open 7 Days a week

PAIN RELIEF!
WITHOUT SURGERY!
Using Low Energy Shock Wave Therapy
No Anesthesia Necessary
Return to Normal Activity the Following Day
In Office Treatment of
HEEL PAIN
TENNIS ELBOW
GOLFERS ELBOW
ANKLE PAIN
HIP PAIN
KNEE PAIN
SHOULDER PAIN
WRIST PAIN



Paul V. Spiegl, MD, PC
Diplomate, American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery
5671 Peachtree Dunwoody Rd.
Suite 750, Atlanta, GA 30342
404-255-5595
www.georgiashockwave.com

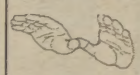
Virginia DuPre
Licensed Professional Counselor
Registered Art Therapist
MDiv

Individual, Group and Couples Therapy with Adults and Teens

- Life Transition and Personal Growth Issues
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Issues Relevant to the GLBT Community
- Spirituality Issues
- Woman's Art Therapy Groups

404.272.3890 Atlanta - Decatur Area

First Hand Experience



404.226.3590
www.firsthandexp.com

Convenient Buckhead Location
Out Calls Available

Swedish | Deep Tissue | Thai

Dr. Karen McCleskey
Licensed Counselor

- Relationship Issues
- Depression
- Sexuality
- Spirituality Issues
- Grief Issues
- Anxiety
- Personal Growth
- Life Coaching

404.373.1989 www.karenmccleskey.com
Decatur-Emory Area

What's Up Dog?

Over 9000 square feet of climate controlled supervised play area

Overnight boarding in a home atmosphere

Doggie Playcare & Boarding

678.205.3790
Tucker, GA

Book early for summer & fall vacation time!

www.whatsupdog.net

Ever read something in Southern Voice that made you

(a) angry

(b) sad

(c) elated

(d) all of the above?

Now's your big chance to let 100,000 readers know what YOU think.

Go online to WWW.SOVO.COM, and next to EVERY story, EVERY feature, EVERY profile, and EVERY opinion column, you'll see a link to let you SOUND OFF.

Each week, Southern Voice will publish the best and the brightest, and some of the rest, too. So go to WWW.SOVO.COM and SOUND OFF!

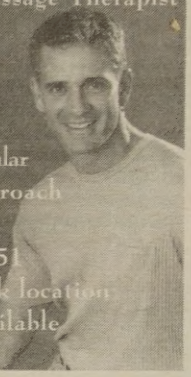
MIND, BODY & SPIRIT DIRECTORY

continued from page 70

micah couttet
Licensed Massage Therapist

Specializing
- reiki
- deep tissue
- neuro muscular
- intuitive approach

678.612.1651
Candler Park location
Outcalls available



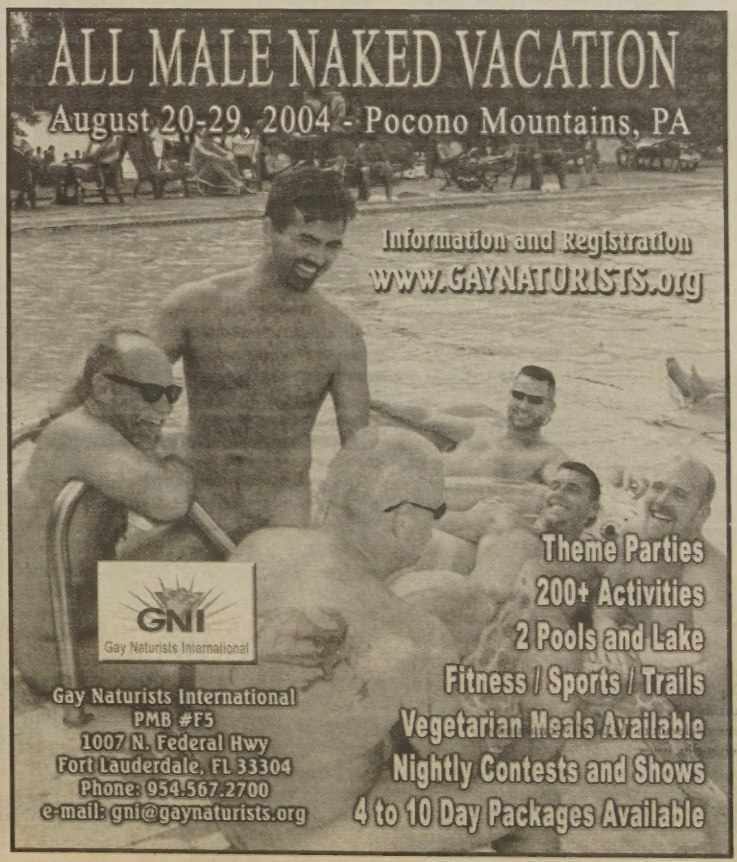
Jai Shanti Yoga

Yoga • Breathwork • Thai Massage
Bill Hufschmidt
1630-D Dekalb Ave, ATLANTA
404.370.0579
www.JaiShantiYoga.com
6PM Sundays GLBT Yoga
50% of proceeds donated to Youth Pride

Want to reach our readers?
Call 404-876-1819
to speak to our sales staff

Want to reach more readers?
Call 404.876.1819
and speak to out sales staff

ALL MALE NAKED VACATION
August 20-29, 2004 - Pocono Mountains, PA
Information and Registration
WWW.GAYNATURISTS.org



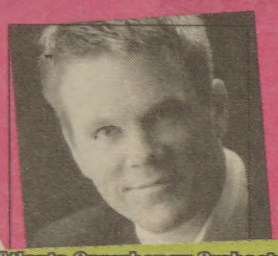
GNI
Gay Naturists International

Gay Naturists International
PMB #F5
1007 N. Federal Hwy
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304
Phone: 954.567.2700
e-mail: gni@gaynaturists.org

Theme Parties
200+ Activities
2 Pools and Lake
Fitness / Sports / Trails
Vegetarian Meals Available
Nightly Contests and Shows
4 to 10 Day Packages Available

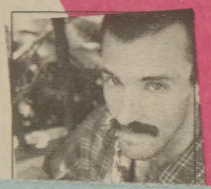
EQUALITY = JUSTICE

JUNE 25 26 27 2004 THE ATLANTA PRIDE CELEBRATION

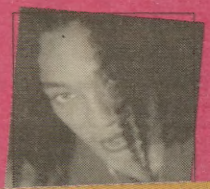


Atlanta Symphony Orchestra June 25

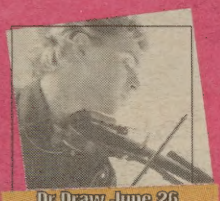
Janis Ian June 26



Mark Weigle June 27



Doria Roberts June 26



Dr Draw June 26

Friday June 25
6-11pm

The Vigil at PRIDE
6:30 Washington Mutual Stage

Commitment Ceremony
8:00 Sheraton Colony Square

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra
8:00 Coca-Cola Stage

The PRIDE Prom
8:00 Magnolia Hall

Saturday June 26
11am-11pm

Dyke March
6:00 Charles Allen Gate

VIP Party "by invitation only"
6:30 Magnolia Hall

Doria Roberts
7:30 Coca Cola Stage

Janis Ian
8:30 Coca Cola Stage

Dr Draw
9:30 Coca Cola Stage

Sunday June 27
11am-11pm

The PRIDE Parade
sponsored by Delta Air Lines
1:00PM Kick Off-
MARTA Civic Center Station
assembly begins 10:30

Mark Weigle
3:30 Coca Cola Stage

Starlight Cabaret
8:30 Coca Cola Stage

IM A GIVER ARE U?

Please:
Give At the Park
Help Us Keep
Atlanta PRIDE Free!

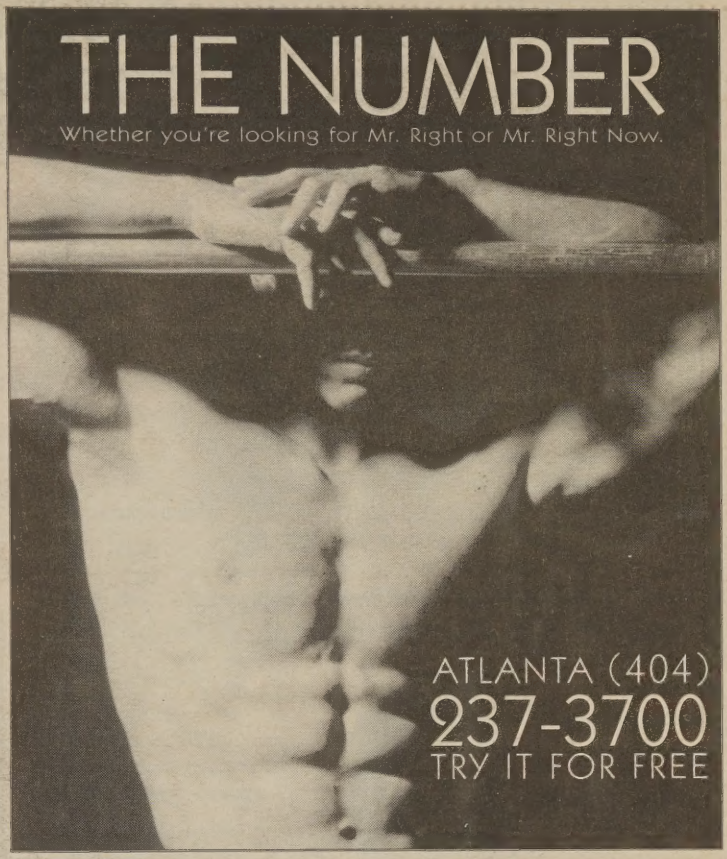
VOLUNTEER ON LINE TODAY!

Coors · Coca-Cola · Delta · MonteVina · Royal · Chase · southern voice · BellSouth

www.atlantapride.org

THE NUMBER

Whether you're looking for Mr. Right or Mr. Right Now.

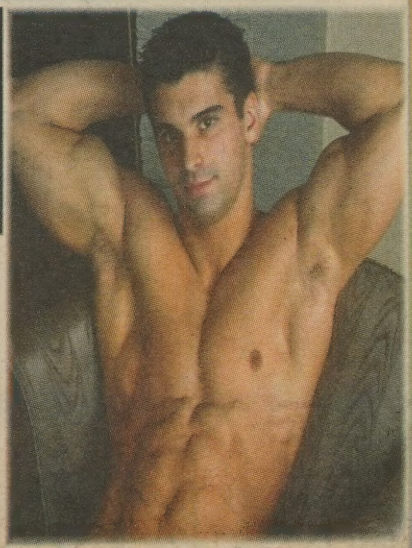


ATLANTA (404)
237-3700
TRY IT FOR FREE

Brand new Online Community

WWW.THEGAYCONNEXXXION.COM

Streaming Action
PERSONALS
Chat Rooms
Forums
OVER 300 HOURS XXX VIDEOS



Online Magazines

over 6,000 guys online now!
get on. get off.
"Free your mind.
Free your body."
www.
MANHUNT.net
it's easy, and it's free.

CLASSIFIEDS

Deadline to place a classified ad for Friday's publication is Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

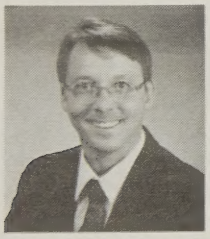
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

FORT LAUDERDALE REAL ESTATE by area native Rob Rose. 24 yrs experience. Visit Rob's top-rated website at www.southfloridahome.com or call (800) ROB-ROSE, ext 201. www.southflorida.com

LOOK!

WE HAVE CHANGED OUR DEADLINES We have extended our deadlines to better serve your needs. Go to www.southernvoice.com to use of fast & easy web form

HEAD TO THE MOUNTAINS
Rabun County - Lake & Mountain Properties. Looking for Cabins, Lake Homes & Land? Call Michael McGaughey at (706) 782-3099 or e-mail michael@lakerabun.com



Stephen Cooper, Million Dollar Club
The Midtown Group, Inc. Your Atlanta Real Estate Specialist. Let my 17 years of experience find the perfect house you can call "HOME". (404) 685-9166 www.atlantamidtowngroup.com

REAL ESTATE
YOUR RE/MAX Agent Can .....
Ken Pullara - Your Full Service Agent
Ken@KenPullara.com (404) 384-6658.
FREE Reports: www.KenPullara.com

OPEN HOUSE / ATLANTA

AVONDALE ESTATES OPEN HOUSE! Sat. 1-4, Sun. 2-5. **3159 Kensington Road.** Charming 3 BR, 2.5 BA updated bungalow. Huge backyard. Just reduced to $298,900. Call (404) 964-9880 jane@dwellingsrealestate.com.

SALE / ATLANTA

"ENJOY MIDTOWN LIVING"

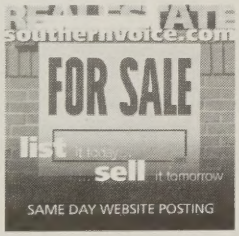
(620 Peachtree St. NE #2011) Magnificent Top Floor 2 BR, 1 BA Condo. Modern Kitchen, floor to ceiling windows, hardwood & stone floors, walk-in closets, pool + much much more! Enjoy gorgeous views of downtown skylines from spacious, breathtaking balcony. Living at its finest .... **Windsor Over Peachtree Condos!** (404) 272-1074.

AVONDALE / DECATUR BUNGALOW
in Forest Hills Community for lesbian families w/ children and/or pets. Beautiful 3 BR, 2 BA w/ room to grow! Hrdwds, full attic, 2-car garage, unfin. bsmt, large fenced lot w/ plenty room for dogs. Come see how comfortable you will feel in your new home. Call John Bailey, Realtor (770) 484-7888.

AVONDALE ESTATES Handyman Delight. Fantastic location, very close to Avondale Village & bike path. 2 BR, 1 BA. Beautiful lot on quiet street. $75,000. (404) 982-0740

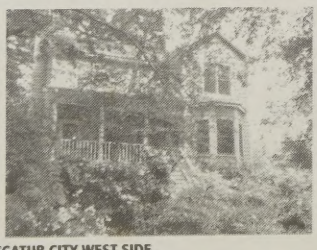
BUCKHEAD
Spend warm nights walking to fine dining w/ that special someone. Upscale 2 BR living at a hometown price. BUCKHEAD $124,900. Beth Ayres, RE/MAX ACTION, (678) 504-1102.

COZY INTOWN RANCH!
3 BR, 2 BA Ranch. Walking distance to Little 5 Points, restaurants, shopping, etc. Contact Renae Veira, COLDWELL BANKER (404) 444-2556. www.realtor.com



DECATUR - GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD
North Druid Woods - North Druid Hills
3 BR, 2 BA, updated kit/bkfst area, hrdwd flrs, carport w/ extra car pad, all brick, fenced bckyd, covered entertaiment area in back. $235,000. Call Pam Taylor (404) 728-0271.

DECATUR / GREAT LAKES 156 Superior Ave. 1925 Bungalow 3 BR, 1 BA, LR, DR, Den & lrg eat-in kit. Hdwd flrs, high ceilings, close to Emory. $369,900. Mike Kondalski (404) 234-9379.



DECATUR CITY WEST SIDE
(143 Adair Street) Private 2 story traditional home by owner in established, friendly, active, & diverse neighborhood. Older home ambiance with newer home (1991) conveniences. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, master BA w/ walk-in closet, upstairs laundry facilities, lovely front porch, convenient covered back deck w/ attached dog kennel & dog yard. Landscaped, fenced, deep backyard. Short walk to downtown Decatur, Eastlake MARTA station. Dog friendly Adair Park 2 blocks. Midtown/Downtown Atlanta only 5 miles. Beautiful home, lovely yard, charming neighborhood, progressive gay friendly town, convenient to Midtown/Downtown Atlanta. $329,000. Jack (404) 378-6734. Details, flyers, pictures at www.myFSBO.com/1435

LOCATION!

EAST POINT: PRE-SELLING NEW TOWNHOMES
Gorgeous 3 BR, 2.5 BA. Approx 2000 sqft. ACT NOW & choose your colors. Seller's allowance $5,000. 5 min to downtown Atl. Marta train/bus access. Starting at $179,900. Call Ruth Rose, KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY. (678) 252-1910

EAST POINT BUNGALOW
Renovated 2-story. 4 BR, 2 BA, kit w/ b'fast rm, LR, walk-a-round frpl, solarium, foyer, fenced bkyd. Up & coming n'hood. $164,900. Make an appt. today! John Bailey, Realtor (770) 484-7888

EAST POINT BUNGALOW Renov. 2-story, 4 BR, 2 BA, kit w/ b'fast rm, LR, walk-a-round fplc, solarium, entrance foyer, fenced bkyd. Up & coming n'hood. $159,900. Make an appt. today! John Bailey/ Realtor (770) 484-7888.

EAST POINT / JEFFERSON PARK 4 BR, 1 BA, updated, fenced yard, nice neighborhood. 2531 Batavia St. $174,900. Lease/Purchase avail for $2500 down, $950/mo. www.rickjpowell.com (404) 931-1120

EMORY, CDC AREA Stunning Renovation inside 285. 4 BR, 3 BA ranch home w/ lake front property. Sandblasted brick exterior, gourmet kit w/ cherry cabinets, granite, stainless applcs, huge limestone & granite master bath, screened porch. Low Dekalb taxes. $434,900. Kirk Hill (404) 315-0765. Virtual tour: www.kirkhillrealtor.com www.showing247.com/2561lakeflair.

GRANT PARK 4-yr main house has 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2 frpls, plus 3 yr old, separate guest house (quiet rental) over 3-car garage w/ lrg BR, DR, LR, BA, & Kit. Main dwelling has Corian counters, hrdwds on main lvl, double covered porches & fabulous, ent. size 2 lvl deck w/ hot tub. End lot overlooking green space. $379,900.

OPEN HOUSE: Sunday 2-4pm or by appt. 991 Rawlins St. Atl, GA 30315. Call Greta @ RE/MAX BUCKHEAD (404) 861-6335

HIGHLAND @ BLVD XLg 1 BR, 1.5 BA. Immac TH. Open floor plan, bright, 3-levels, garage, pool, gym, gated. Move-in now! Open Sundays in June 2-5pm. $174,900. Kaye M., COLDWELL BANKER (770)289-7264

IN-TOWN FANTASTIC RENOVATED 3 BR, 2 BA RANCH HOME! $334,900! Hrwds, updated kit, sep. den, frpl, built-ins, 2 decks, private fenced back yard, great price, terrific location! 1409 Sheridan Road, Atlanta. Call Kelly Stobaugh, RE/MAX GREATER ATLANTA (404) 518-0468

KIRKWOOD - Charming 2 BR, 2 BA. Completely Renovated Home. White pickett fence, new hrdwds, new tile BAs, new applcs, new HVAC, new roof, **New Everything!** Huge deck; Must See To Appreciate! $222,000. Tracie (770) 262-4414

KIRKWOOD RENOV BUNGALOW 3 BR, 2 BA, LR, DR, lrg kit, deck, hdwd flrs, high ceilings. $299.900 @ 132 Warren St. Mike Kondalski (404) 234-9379.

KIRKWOOD
Stop Looking! 1930 Bungalow. 2 BR, 2 BA, MBR w/ dbl frpl, hrdwds, breath-taking bckyrd w/deck, SS applcs. $285,000. Call Flo (404) 308-1422 www.showing247.com/88lakeview

LOCATION!

MIDTOWN 2 BR, 1 BA w/ gated prkg, hdwd flrs, walk to park, low condo fee. Cheaper than rent! 100% Financing. Only $113,000. Call Chris, SOUTHERN REALTY (404) 925-7324.

VA HIGHLANDS 3 story TH, roof garden w/city views. Architect's home! Dramatic, contemporary. 3 BR, 2 BA. Covered parking. $395,000. To view: Margie Stockton, Jenny Pruitt (404) 317-3212.

VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS - 8 NEW CONDOS!
"799 BARNETT". Charming 1BR, 1BA w/ jetted tub, new kit, HVAC, security system + more! Buyer chooses finish colors/ stains. $150K - $167K. Call **Kevin Purinai (678) 686-0607.** HARRY NORMAN, REALTORS (404) 897-5558.

VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS
1 BR, 1 BA Condo. All brick design. 9' Ceilings, Porch w/ skyline view, WD, security, disposal, dishwasher, Elfa shelving system. 2 min from Piedmont Park, 5 min from Ansley Mall. Available now. $900/mo incl utils. (404) 281-8296

SALE / ELSEWHERE

FT. LAUDERDALE RANCH 3 BR, 2 BA 2000 sqft, soaring ceilings, 2 car garage, 10yrs New, gated community, pool, tennis court. $325,000. LARRY BANE REALTY (954) 557-4833

TOCCOA GA Perfect For Hobbyfarm, 4 BR, 2 BA log home on 8+ acres. $239,900. For more info (706) 779-6986 or wildberri@alltel.net. Sorry, no financing.

RENTAL SERVICES

RENTALS
RENTALS
RENTALS
No Fee Service! (404) 352-5570 / (800) 597-7356. www.PrideRealty.rentals.com 24/7 Property Management!

RENT / ATLANTA

$99 MOVE-IN SPECIAL
Effeciencies & 1 BRs available. 355 Peachtree St., Atlanta, Ga. Section 8 waiting list is open. (404) 584-0550

ANSLEY PARK Large 2 BR, 1 BA + office. Renovated apt in 1929 home. Private entrances. Patio, hdwds, CAC, WD, OSP, walk to everything. Some pets OK. Avail June. $1,150/mo (404) 873-0383.

ATLANTIC STATION - 1 BR, 1 BA available July 1st. This beautiful new Condo is located next to Pool w/ designer lighting, Corian counters & covered park'g. $1,350/mo (some utilites incl'd). David (770) 480-7758

BUCKHEAD CONDO
(2285 Peachtree Rd) 1 BR, priv terrace, pool, laundry, fitness room, parking, all utils. References & deposit req'd. $850/mo. (404) 874-1865

DECATUR Charming & Completely Renovated Home. 3 Large BR (1 has sep entr), 2 full BA, spacious Kit w/ all new applcs, sunny family room, lrg LR, DR + den w/ hrdwd flrs throughout. Brand new energy efficient Heat/Air system. Gorgeous Tall trees provide a perfect backdrop for spacious wooded deck & cozy screened porch. $1,275/mo. 2656 Harringdon Dr, Decatur GA 30033. Call (404) 847-2122

DOWNTOWN LOFT 2 Level, exposed brick, post & beam construction, 1500 sqft, huge windows, rooftop deck w/ great view, near CNN Center and Park. $1,400/mo. (404) 325-3536 colucas.elucas.net

DRUID HILLS - Wonderful Apartment in Priv Home. Separate entrance, 2 BR, LR, large sunny kit, breakfast nook, off-street parking, lots of storage. Screened porch overlooks gorgeous yard. $1,000/mo incl gas, electric, water. No smoking, quiet, no dogs. (404) 373-3444

DRUID HILLS (BEAUTIFUL) - 1 BR Apartment. Private entrance, private garden, lots of storage, off-street parking. $650/mo incl gas, electric, water. No smoking, quiet, no dogs. Perfect for 1 mature adult. (404) 373-3444

EAST ATLANTA TOWNHOUSE
Located in VILLAGE AT EAST ATLANTA TOWNHOME COMMUNITY at Moreland Avenue & I-20. As nice as you will find! 1 BR w/garage, hdwds, stainless, pool, gated community, sec sys. 10 mins to midtown. $1,300/mo. (404) 232-0775 bgunby@sovo.com

EAST POINT / JEFFERSON PARK 4 BR, 1 BA, updated, fenced yard, nice neighborhood. Pets OK. 2531 Batavia St. $950/mo. Lease/Purchase avail $2500 down, $950/mo. (404) 931-1120

CLASSIFIEDS • www.sovo.com • 1-877-863-1885

GASKET CITY BLDG
Beautiful 1 BR, 1 BA overlooking downtown. Close to Centennial Park. Stainless Steel applcs, gated pkg, rooftop deck. $1,200/mo. Susan Baker (770) 546-2500

GRANT PARK 2 BR, 2 BA w/ lrg fenced yard, WD incl'd. 1 blk from park. Pets ok. Avail 9/1. $1,200 + dep. (404) 429-1066

HURRY, WON'T LAST!
The Best Location in Town: all between Monroe, Peachtree, Ponce & 14th. **STUDIO, LOFTS, 1 & 2 BEDROOM APTS** Beautiful Surroundings, Spacious Floor Plans, All the Amenities. Close to restaurants, shopping & nightlife. Call & ask about our MOVE IN SPECIAL! from $550/mo. Call (678) 760-7988.

MIDTOWN / GA. TECH 2 BR, 2 BA amazing loft-style condo in old school building. Complete renovation. 14' ceilings, huge windows. Granite, stainless, hrdwds, maple cabinets, 2 parking spaces, pool, the works! $1,290/mo. Avail 7/1. (404) 518-5492

MIDTOWN LUXURY LOFT Glen Iris Lofts. Largest 1 BR available. Corner unit w/ 12' ceilings, hrdwd flrs, exposed brick, gourmet kitch, pool, and 2 assigned prking spaces in gated community. Gas, water, hi-speed internet, WD incl'd. Walking distance to shopping, restaurants & Piedmont Park. $1,450/mo. (404) 875-8169

MIDTOWN TOWNHOUSE/a 2 BR + Bonus Office, 1.5 BA. Loc at 8th St / Durant Place, 2 blks frm Piedmont Park. Must See Inside! Hrdwd flrs, parking, renov, many amenities. Avail 7/1 or sooner. $1,450/mo. Call (404) 815-1502

MIDTOWN WEST "Beautiful Skyline Views" 2 BR + 1 MBR Suite, 2.5 BA, large kitchen & nook, hrdwds, frpl, 2 car garage. Immaculate In & out! $1,100/mo. Call (404) 625-7444

OAKHURST - 1/2 OFF 1ST MONTH'S RENT
2 BR, 1 BA House in Oakhurst (near Decatur). Terrific, Renov in 2001. New Kit, Stainess Steel Fridge, Hrdwd Flrs, Frpl, CHA, WD hookups, Large Fenced Yard. Pets OK w/dep. $850/mo. Lease Purchase possible. (404) 915-0267. trippIt@hotmail.com - email for pics. trippIt@hotmail.com

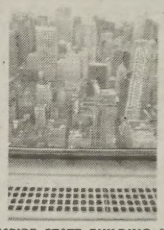
PEACHTREE STREET DOWNTOWN. 1 BR w/beautiful view of downtown. Laundry facilities on site, media center, workout room, stores & restaurants. 24-hour security. $615/mo. Call (404) 964-7654

PONCE / EMORY
2 BR, 2 BA w/ WD, sunroom, deck, frpl - swim & tennis community. Upgraded, excellent location, ideal for established young professional. No pets. $500 sec dep required. 1,050/mo. Call (404) 508-0715 between 8am-8pm

STONE MOUNTAIN TH 5 min from historic downtown Stone Mountain. Easy access to Hwy 78 or I-20. 3 BR, 2.5 BA available immediately. Hrdwds, frpl, bsmnt, WD, frig & stove incl'd. DSL, SATV, Sec Sys. $950/mo. Call (770) 310-9826 or email us at alandi@bellsouth.net.

VA HIGHLANDS Gorgeous corner studio loft. Lots of windows. Lge balcony w/city skyline view. All appls including W/D. Covered park'g. Avail July 1st. $1,100/mo. (404) 372-8746.

RENT/COMMERCIAL/EVENT SPACE



BEAUTIFUL EMPIRE STATE BUILDING Office for 1 year sublet, 600 sqft, includes phone system, large open space, high ceilings, sunny & bright, amazing views, 69th floor. For more info or to schedule a viewing, contact (212) 594-8181 ext 101

SHARE / ATLANTA

AFFORDABLE HOUSING available in the Metro Atlanta area. A service of Home But Not Alone. Please contact Susan (770) 395-2546 or (770) 395-2625.

ALPHARETTA HOUSEMATE
Male seeking M/F for furn'd 4 BR, 2.5 BA house. WD, fenced yard, 2 car garage, pool, tennis court. $500/mo + 1/2 utils. (678) 339-2781 or wayne641@aol.com

AVONDALE / I-285 GM sharing large 4 BR, 2.5 BA house. CATV, DSL, garage, fenced back yard. Pets OK. Non-smoker only. $450/mo incl utils. Refs & dep req'd. Call Gary (404) 294-9061 or e-mail to hond@mindspring.com

BUCKHEAD / MIDTOWN GM to share 3 BR, 2.5 BA TH, WD, convenient location, no pets. $475/mo incl utils. Call Ken (404) 634-7563 after 6pm.

BUCKHEAD Nice 4 BR house on wooded lot. Mature, responsible, nonsmoker. $550/mo + 1/4 utils. Phone (404) 264-1940

COLLEGE PARK Beautiful large BR w/ priv bath in wonderful house, near MARTA. Off street parking, cable & all utils incl'd. No smokers. $450/mo + $200 deposit. (404) 377-8668

DECATUR - Share large split lvl hse w/ GWM. Your own priv BR & BA. $450/mo incl utils. Non-smoker, Avail now. (404) 288-8097

GRANT PARK / TURNER FIELD M to share 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2-story Home. Sports minded. No drugs/smoking. $485/mo + utils. (404) 277-6883

GRANT PARK BUNGALOW Share w/ GM. Fully furn & completely remodeled. Priv BA & full house privileges. $650/mo + utils. (404) 524-2097

INMAN PARK - 4 BR, 3 BA with in-law suite/apt, priv kitchen & stainless applcs, skyline view, hrdwds, berber carpet, flr to ceiling windows! $455k or poss. 100% fin. @ $2,000/mo! Call Chris (770) 638-3654 REMAX COMMUNITIES.

KENNESAW / LEGACY PARK Room for Rent. Large house, fenced back yard, tennis, pool, beautiful private park & more. $450/mo incl utils. Call (770) 424-0738

MIDTOWN / MORNINGSIDE Location, Privacy, Quiet. 1 BR Suite. Kit & laundry priv. Where you want to live! Large home, gated-community. No Pets! $600/mo incl utils. (404) 872-3555

MIDTOWN HOUSE Share 4 BR, 3 BA, $400/mo + 1/3 utils. Chad (404) 401-1710
www.geocities.com/chadamongthestars2004/rent.html

MIDTOWN M looking for roommate to share sm 2 BR, 1 BA apt 1 block from park. Off st. parking, on-site laundry, hrdwds, MARTA. $400/mo + utils. Eric (404) 422-1584

S.W. ATLANTA PGWM to share large 3 BR house in quiet area w/ fabulous yard & garden. Near MARTA. Share utils incl SATV, sec sys, DSL. MUST SEE! $475/mo. dep & refs req'd. (404) 755-7026 lennt@bellsouth.net

COMMITMENT CEREMONIES

ELEGANT AFFORDABLE DECOR
for your special event. **MDECOR** provides high end floral, fabric treatment, linens, special effects lighting, & room or buffet decor. Perfect for any setting. We'd love to be a part of your day! (404) 401-3125

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITES

FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITY
Earth's fastest growing tanning salon franchise rapidly expanding in Atlanta. Low start-up, 5 billion dollar industry. planetbeach.com. (888) 290-TANN

AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY!! Learn to earn $100k+/yr working from home P/T. Not multi-level marketing. Free info (800) 652-1036.

PROFITABLE FLORIDA BAR!
Great Opportunity, Profitable Bar / Nightclub for Sale in Hot Wilton Manors (Ft Lauderdale area), the new Gay Mecca as written up in the New York Times. Over 4,500 sq ft inside, dance floor, DJ Booth, 2 full service bars, flat screen TV's thru-out, outdoor covered patio area w/ full service patio bar. Rm for pool / outdoor recreational activities. 4COP Liquor Lic, smoking allowed, newly remodeled, new equipment, Great Long Term lease, Experienced staff!
Call R & S REALTY GROUP,
Judy Griner (954) 298-7752 for details.

AOK ..... PUT YOUR COMPUTER TO WORK!
Up to $5,500+/mo. FREE BOOKLET. Call 1 (877) 524-9482 (24 hrs.) www.mkhomebusiness.com

EMPLOYMENT

ACCOUNTANTS RECEIVABLE / COLLECTIONS
Window Media has an opening in its Atlanta office on Zonolite Road. Accounting Degree & experience with **Accounts Receivable & Collections** desired. Must be organized with excellent communication skills. Experience with Quickbooks, Excel & Filemaker Pro helpful.

Send resume & salary requirements via e-mail to payres@window-media.com.

ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE

Southern Voice, the South's premier gay and lesbian weekly newspaper with a weekly readership exceeding 100,000, has an immediate opening for an experienced advertising sales representative. The ideal candidate will have at least 3 years experience and will be a self-motivated go-getter with a winning personality and a proven track record in display sales. Experience in the print industry is preferred but not mandatory.

We offer a great work environment, competitive compensation, comprising of guaranteed non-recoverable draw plus commission as well as bonuses, other incentives and insurance benefits.

Apply in confidence with resume and cover letter to employment@window-media.com or mail to:

Southern Voice
1075 Zonolite Road, Suite 1-D
Atlanta, GA 30306.

BE YOUR OWN BO$S.
$280,000 Potential. Sales and Marketing Pros Wanted!! Personal Development. No cold calling. 1 (800) 213-1965

BEAUTIFUL HEALING ENVIRONMENT IN N. GA MTNS Perfect sanctuary for those seeking peace & solitude. Come make a difference! Pure air & water. Room/board, small bi-monthly stipend in exhange for work. (706) 896-9966 or www.enota.org.

BLACK TIE SERVICES. Now needing hospitality staff, servers, bartenders & supervisors. Work with private homes, caters, etc. Transportation required. Call for appointment (770) 234-0707 blacktieinc.com.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING SALES

DAVID MAGAZINE, the city's hottest GLBT magazine, seeks a **Classified Advertising Rep.** On the sales side, you'll be responsible for all phases of the selling process: ad formatting; cold-calling; prospect development; conceptualizing, planning & delivering ad proofs; writing proposals, negotiating contracts & closing new business.

Classified advertising sales experience preferred, but not necessary; specific training provided. This is a highly visible position requiring interaction w/ existing clients, potential customers & employees at sister publications.

Must possess:

✔a pleasant demeanor & work well w/ others
✔working knowledge of Windows. ✔demonstrated ability to juggle multiple tasks w/ excellent attention to detail & follow through skills required.

We offer a challenging & exciting opportunity in a fast-paced, goal-oriented (yet fun) environment. Competitive compensation (salary plus commission) & comprehensive benefits package, including health/dental/life insurance, generous paid holidays, vacation & more.
If you are an energetic, results-driven self starter & want to help build a newspaper that has a positive impact on your community, we want to hear from you.

Send cover letter & resume to: (888) 409-6768 or email your resume in Word format to nregan@washblade.com.
No phone calls please.

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

Shameless
SAMIA HAS UNWITTINGLY AGREED TO TEACH ARABIC TO ONE OF GINGER'S MORE RIGHTWARD-LEANING STUDENTS.
6/16
442
©2004 BY ALISON BECHDEL
HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW SHE WAS THAT CYNTHIA? SHE SEEMED PERFECTLY NICE ON THE PHONE.
SHE'S ALWAYS TRYING TO UNDERMINE MY AUTHORITY. I FELT OBLIGED TO TELL HER YOU WERE MY FRIEND. BUT I DON'T WANT THAT LITTLE MCCARTHYITE TO KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT MY PERSONAL LIFE. OKAY?
SMIRNOFF
PRIDE 2004
FREEDOM TO MARRY
SO I SHOULDN'T MENTION YOUR PREDILECTION FOR CROOKNECK SQUASH?
MEANWHILE...
HEY, MO! ARE YOU GOING TO PRIDE? COME WITH US.
ACTUALLY, I'M GOING TO GAY SHAME.
IT'S AT THE OTHER END OF THE PARK, TO PROTEST HOW PRIDE HAS GOTTEN SO CORPORATE. I THINK WE SHOULD MAKE IT MORE INCLUSIVE, THOUGH.
AMERICAN SHAME!
EXCELLENT.
I'LL BE PROUD WHEN BUSH IS GONE
HONK!
evildoer
HEY, GUYS. HOP IN! I'LL DRIVE YOU TO THE PARADE.
THANKS, JUNE!
THAT'S YOUR MOMMY'S EX. CAN YOU SAY "EX?"
EXTINCTION
GEH.
UH... BUT WE HAVE THE BABY AND EVERYTHING.
OKAY! SEE YA! I'LL BE PULLING THE LGBT TECH PROFESSIONALS' FLOAT!
WHATEVER IT COSTS TO FILL THAT THING UP. IT'S NOT NEARLY ENOUGH.
DON'T LET US STOP YOU. GO RIDE IN THE PRIDEMOBILE IF YOU WANT. WE'RE GOING TO SHAME.
IN THE PARK...
IT'S CYNTHIA! WHAT'S SHE DOING HERE?! TAKING NAMES FOR THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT?
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO PARANOID? SHE KNOWS YOU'RE A LESBIAN.
LIGHT
CLEAR CHANNEL COMMUNICATIONS
Gay & Les Chamb Comm
BUT SHE DOESN'T KNOW YOU'RE MY GIRLFRIEND.
LET'S GIVE HER A THRILL.
SAMIA?
DR. JORDAN?

CLASSIFIEDS • www.sovo.com • 1-877-863-1885

EASY MONEY - EASY TIME Make an extra $5,000+ per month in your own spare time by becoming an Independent Skin Care / Spa Consultant. Training provided. Limited time $99. Call (770) 590-0985 www.beautipage.com/randywilliams

ADVANCED DENTISTRY ADA OF ATLANTA, LLC

FRONT OFFICE CONCIERGE

Great Staff. Beautiful dental office. Cosmetic-fee-for-service practice looking to add to our team a mature, personable, conscientious, full-time concierge. Must understand importance of customer service, have excellent grammar & computer skills. Dental experience preferred. Great salary & benefits.

No agency's please. Fax resume to (404) 724-9130.

FULL TIME APPRENTICE / ASSISTANT needed. Upscale hair salon in Buckhead looking to expand their apprentice staff. Good salary with medical/dental benefits available after 90 days. Fax resume to (404) 609-9883.

RESTAURANT SEEKING SERVERS professional servers for fun restaurant / lounge in Midtown. Min. 5 yrs experience. Apply in person at the Red Chair 550-C Amsterdam Ave. Midtown, Tuesday - Saturday between 4-6pm.

VOLUNTEERS

ATLANTA HARM REDUCTION CENTER is a grassroots street outreach program whose focus is to stop the spread of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, by providing info, condoms, referrals & more to the people who are the underserved in our communities. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! Please donate some of your time & energy. For more info write to: AHRC; 1561 McLendon Ave N.E. 3rd floor, Atlanta GA 30307 or call (404) 526-9222. E-mail us Ahrcatlanta@juno.com.

GROUPS

MODEL RAILROAD CLUB
Forming for Men & Women. Call John (404) 524-2097.

INSTRUCTION

VIOLIN LESSONS By experienced instructor. For all ages. Call Lpeop Recording Studio (404) 363-0654 or email: lpeop@aol.com

TRAVEL / U.S.A.

FT LAUDERDALE INTERCOASTAL Paradise 1 & 2 BR fully furnished condos avail, weekly or monthly. Pool, cable tv, DSL, 5 min walk to ocean. www.holidayisleyachtclub.com or call (954) 566-3206

LAVENDER SEA BED & BREAKFAST A unique lodging experience a few paces from historic Williamsburg. Part ocean, part garden. We have one antique & art filled room w/ priv BA. Call Heidi or Chris (757) 345-0198. "Come Dive into the Lavender Sea and be Refreshed" www.lavenderseabandb.com email: lavenderseabandb@aol.com

LESBIAN PARADISE!! "One of the 10 best G/L guesthouses" Planet Out. 19 rooms, 100 acres. Highlands Inn, Bethelem, NH. (877) LES-B-INN (537-2466) www.highlandsinn-nh.com

MOOSE MEADOW LODGE Vermont log home, Waterbury. Gay-owned, luxurious Adirondack-style B&B on 86 acres. Premier site for civil unions & romantic getaways. (802) 244-5378. www.moosemeadowlodge.com

NC MTN CABIN 2 BR / 2 BA, fpl, on 3 acres w/ mountain stream! Fully furn. Close to Cashiers. $450/wkends, $900/wkly. (404) 874-9735

THE LOVETT INN Distinctive lodging & catering accommodations. Corporate meeting rooms, banquet facilities, jacuzzi suites, pool & hot tubs. Near downtown, museums & medical center. (713) 522-5224 or (800) 779-5224. View our website at www.lovettinn.com

VISIT DAYTONA BEACH Write:
Greater Daytona Beach Business Guild,
PO Box 263148
Daytona Beach, Fla 32126 or **www.gaydaytona.com.**

NEARBY GETAWAYS

ALPINE HELEN. Mountain Laurel Chalet, romantic secluded home near Unicoi State park, jacuzzi, fpl, satellite TV. 3 BR + sleeping loft, 2 BA. Call (404) 325-9763 or visit our website www.mountainlaurelchalet.net.

BLUE RIDGE, GEORGIA Quality cabin rentals. 90 mins N of Atlanta. Pet friendly. www.blackbearcabinrentals.com. or (888) 902-2246.

GEORGIA MOUNTAIN CABIN 3 BR, 2 BA, sleeps 8-10. Secluded/wooded, fully furnished, hottub, white-water rafting! 2 hrs from Atl. Ask for SOVO discount. (770) 366-5552. http://www.webspawner.com/users/14fun2/index.html

NORTH GEORGIA MOUNTAIN PROPERTIES
Views, Creek Front or Cabin Getaways, We have it all! Best locations in North Georgia. Call Toll Free 1 (866) 763-5683 or visit www.RODLOVE.com

DC GuestHouse Elegant Victorian mansion built in 1867. Logan/Convention Center location. Blks away from world class dining & diverse entertainment. Gay owned & operated. Call (202) 332-2502 www.dcguesthouse.com

BUY / SELL

"PRICELESS ACCENTS" FOR HOME OR OFFICE
✔La Pavoni Italian Handcrafted Espresso Machines
✔Crystal Picture Frames w/ Commitment Bands or Rose
visit us at www.cjsattic.com for more Timeless Designs

WE BUY BOOKS! All subjects. Single volumes to whole libraries. For more information, call (404) 522-0760, visit www.dancingfrogbooks.com or email dancingfrog@mindspring.com

MADONNA TIX (2) Phillips Arena 7/24, Sec. 208, Row B, $350 for the pair. (678) 947-8422

VEHICLES

RUN IT 'TILL YOU SELL IT. Take advantage of our new "Run it 'till you sell it" promotional. Place an ad to sell your car and email a photo of the car and run the ad until it sells. It's only $39.99. Call our friendly staff toll free today! (877) 863-1885.

www.OffLeaseAuto.com
Your best "NEW CAR" alternative. Log on & save Thousands!! Jags, Mercedes, Land Rovers & many more.
Contact Will @ 1 (888) 227-7799

PETS / SUPPLIES

FULTON COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES Save a life & adopt a pet! Pics of dogs, cats, puppies & kittens. Shelter info @ www.fultonanimalservices.com / (404) 794-0358.

SANDY'S SERVICES Reliable Pet Sitting, babysitting, house cleaning & much more! Call Sandy at (404) 966-1526. HAVE LEASH...WILL TRAVEL!

SUSANA ID #A340742
Playful, 7 mos, female, black labrador retriever/border collie - mix puppy. Take me home! **Call Fulton County Animal Services. (404) 794-0358.**

PUBLICATIONS

GEORGIA, NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, TEXAS & FLORIDA
Window-Media is your leading gay news source!
✔ New York Blade News.
www.nyblade.com
✔ Southern Voice.
www.sovo.com
✔ Houston Voice.
www.houstonvoice.com
✔ DAVID Magazine. Nightlife & adult gay entertainment for the South.
www.davidmagazine.com

FINANCIAL SERVICES

APPLY BY PHONE
Fast approvals, Good, Bad, No credit
Not a problem! We specialize in:
Business loans, Mortgage loans, Personal loans, Jumbo loans.
Go ahead give us a call 24/hrs @ (866) 242-0334

CHELSEA BOYS
BY GLEN HANSON and ALLAN NEUWIRTH
AS A FAVOR TO HIS FRIEND DAN GIBSON, NATHAN AGREED TO TALK TO HIS YOUNGER BROTHER...
YEAH, DAN!!
MAN... WHAT A PLAY! YOUR BROTHER IS AMAZING!
LISTEN, TODD... I WANNA SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING...
DUDE, IF IT'S ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN YOUR APARTMENT, I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE TALKIN' ABOUT THAT HERE.
WELL, IT'S SORT OF ABOUT THAT, BUT NOT REALLY... ACTUALLY IT'S YOUR BROTHER WHO WANTED ME TO TALK TO YOU--
ABOUT WHAT?
WELL, DAN FOUND OUT YOU'RE GAY--AND HE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE... SO HE ASKED ME IF I WOULD--
WHAT?! YOU ASSHOLE-- DID YOU TELL MY BROTHER?! I CAN'T FUCKIN' BELIEVE IT!!
TODD-- WAIT! LEMME EXPLAIN!
I SWEAR I DIDN'T TELL YOUR BROTHER! HE FOUND THE PORN IN YOUR BEDROOM.
DON'T WORRY. HE'S TOTALLY COOL WITH YOU BEING GAY--HE JUST DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO BRING UP THE SUBJECT...
SHIT... HE KNOWS? ARE YOU SURE HE'S COOL WITH IT?
ABSOLUTELY. AND AS FAR AS YOUR VISIT TO MY APARTMENT, I PROMISE, I'LL NEVER SAY A WORD TO DAN ABOUT IT. BESIDES, IT'S JUST AS WELL THAT NOTHING HAPPENED BETWEEN US.
I MEAN, I KNOW THE IDEA OF BEING WITH AN OLDER, DASHING, SOPHISTICATED, SEXY MAN IS VERY ATTRACTIVE... BUT YOU'RE YOUNG. YOU REALLY SHOULD EASE INTO DATING WITH GUYS CLOSER TO YOUR OWN AGE.
YEAH. I AGREE.
I THOUGHT I WAS INTO OLDER DUDES... BUT THEN I REALIZED THEY'RE ALL WRINKLY AND FLABBY AND HAIRY AND STUFF... I THINK GUYS MY OWN AGE ARE, LIKE, WAY HOTTER.
CHELSEABOYS.COM ©2004 HANSON+NEUWIRTH

CLASSIFIEDS • www.sovo.com • 1-877-863-1885

QUICK START FINANCIAL
Get a quick start on credit repairs. We provide immediate help with home loans, small business loans, personal loans, & consolidation loans. Call Us Toll Free 1 (888) 278-3138.

LEADING FINANCIAL INSTITUTION approving small business, mortgage personal & vehicle loans. Immediate response. Give us a call at (866) 228-7382

ONE OF THE LEADING NAMES IN MORTGAGES RIGHT IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD .....

Experienced specialist **Philip Carden** will work with you from application to closing. A variety of Mortgage programs available to meet your needs. Call Philip Carden today for a free consultation. (404) 877-3212 www.philcarden.com

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!!!
New online University seeking investors. Contact Dr. George Sutton at (760) 963-5309 www.heritageuniv.net

LEGAL SERVICES

ISRAEL TARLTON P.C. Attorneys & Counselors at Law. A community law firm offering a full range of services incl DUI & criminal defense, family law & partnership dissolutions, real estate closings & estate planning. Proud to be part of the "Atlanta Family". James W. Tarlton IV or John M. Israel (404) 815-9009 or www.israelattorney.com.

PAIGE NORWOOD JENNINGS ATTORNEY AT LAW
Partner Package for $499 gets you 2 simple wills, 2 living wills, 2 health care power of attorneys & 2 financial powers of attorneys. Also dealing in mediation, divorce, custody & name changes. Call (404) 350-9092 or http://www.paigejennings.com.

DEBT RELIEF, BANKRUPTCY
CHAPTERS 13 & 7. FREE CONSULTATION! Stop ..... Harassment, Foreclosure, Repossessions, and Garnishments.
BRADLEY A. LANE, P.C. 118 Trinity Place, Decatur, GA
(404) 687-8880

COMPUTERS / SERVICE

METRO GIRL ATLANTA New web sites, fixes on existing sites, site maintenance, hosting. Custom design work w/ affordable, personalized service. Visit www.metrogirl.com

ENTERTAINMENT / DJ SERVICES

I'VE GOT THE MUSIC IF YOU'VE GOT THE SPACE!
Lets hook-up w/ my new high enery beats & light show. Help locate gay party spaces. Call Tom (404) 944-5400 tockbul@aol.com

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HUSBAND 4 A DAY General contractor, certified/licensed/bonded. Home repair, renovation, decking & painting. ANY problem solved. (404) 402-5577 or e-mail: HUSBNDforADAY@aol.com.

MASTER CARPENTER kitchens, baths, cabinetry, countertops, built-ins, trim, general carpentry. 25 yrs exp. Licensed / insured. John, (770) 736-5433.

WINDOWS!!! AT-A-GLANCE WINDOW TREATMENT. Professional window treatments at low, reasonable prices. For estimates, Call (678) 478-5030

FLOORING / CARPETING

ARTISTIC TILE & FLOORING Tile, marble, stone floors/countertops/showers. Laminate & pre-finished wood flooring. Licensed & insured. Quality guaranteed! Free estimates. (770) 714-0585

LANDSCAPING / DESIGN

HOWELL LANDSCAPING OF GEORGIA Over 15 yrs in Atl area, qualified designers on staff, competitive pricing, industry leading warranty. Custom landscape design & installation. (678) 297-2068

SCOGGI D ENTERPRISES A premier lawn service, is accepting new customers. Service areas: DeKalb, Gwinnett, Rockdale. Free estimate. (678) 612-3252

CLEANING SERVICES

KNICELY MAID Interior & exterior home maintenance. (404) 438-3590, (678) 592-0753. knicelymaid@msn.com. Open your door to a cleaner day! Professionally Licensed & Insured.

MOVING

STRESS-LESS MOVERS The most relaxed move you will ever make. Lic, Ins, Dependable. Major CC accepted. Residential & Office moves. (404) 352-0560. www.stresslessmovers.com.

MASSAGE

$35...INEXPENSIVE BUT EXPERIENCED Trained in Europe. Table, machine, unscented lotions, shower available, full body. 9am-9pm. Bill (404) 550-3954. CMT. Gift certificates available.

PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE THERAPY Collin Hicks CMT. Visit my website www.geocities.com/collhi or call (404) 667-3050.

GREAT NEW CMT New to Atl w/ over 7 yrs exp. Strong, talented professional delivers excellent pressure w/ fabulous spa touches. Jeff (404) 409-2426 www.jeffbert.com.

TINO Latino, 100% legitimate & professional CMT. 10 yrs experience. 7 techniques. Trained abroad. Vining/Smyrna. In: (1st timer $49) / Out: $79. 1.5/hr sessions. (404) 275-1326.

MASSAGE WITH MUSCLE Ex-Marine provides expert full body massage. Therapeutic muscle work, stress-reduction & relaxation. Credit Cards accepted. Will (404) 875-4977.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE Introductory Special 20% Off! Deep Tissue Specialist. 10 yrs experience. Non-sexual Therapeutic Massage. Annalee, CMT (404) 914-1822. HIV/AIDS Friendly.

SERENITY SPA
Sexy Black Male CMT for 60 to 90 mins. Deep tissue or Swedish. Full body, sensual massage. Great Rates. (404) 545-0781 Carlos

MALE 4 MALE Full Body Massage (60 or 90 min. sessions, waxing, shaves, trims, & MORE! Fit, muscular & personable CMT, FALEN (678) 722-7646. 10-12 mins N of dwntwn.

PSYCHIC READINGS

READINGS BY APRIL
A Gifted Reader and Spiritual Healer
Specializing in Palm + Tarot + Crystal + Astrology
Are you confused?
Do you need answers to your questions?
Are you having problems with Love, Relationships, Money, Health, Happiness?
CALL TODAY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW
954+462+0603

COUNSELING / SUPPORT

NORTH GEORGIA MOUNTAINS
Licensed Counsel. Individual, family, & youth. All GLBT issues: anxiety, intimacy, grief & loss. Vicki A. McMorrough, LPC, NCC. (706) 892-4440 www.yonahcounselingservices.com

HEALTH / FITNESS

GET YOUR BODY BACK!!! Caring, exper., A.C.E. Certified Personal Trainer. Specializing in Women's Fitness. Located: Morningside / Virginia Highland area. Linda McGee (404) 885-1584

southern voice Classified Order Form

Fax: 877-863-1885 • www.sovo.com

DEADLINE • TUESDAY AT 5:30PM FOR FRIDAY'S PAPER

1 WRITE YOUR AD. Please print clearly.

CATEGORY:_____ # OF ISSUES:_____

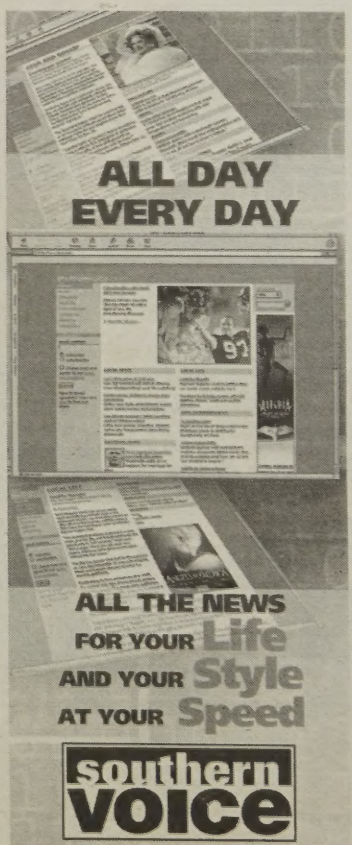
TEXT:_____

2 TOTAL YOUR COST

First 25 words: 17.50
Extra words ____x 75¢: _____
Bolded ad: ❑ $5.00
Boxed ad: ❑ $5.00
Hyperlink: ❑ $2.00
Photo/Logo: ❑ $35.00
Subtotal: _____
x ____ # of issues
Total: $_____

3 PAYMENT

Name:_____
Address:_____
City_____
State/Zip_____
Phone_____
Charge to my ❑ AMEX ❑ MC ❑ VISA
Card #_____
_____ Exp.____/____



ADVANCED DENTISTRY ADA OF ATLANTA, LLC

DENTAL HYGIENE ASSISTANT
Entry level opportunity with our cosmetic practice for a motivated hygiene assistant who has x-ray certification & excellent communication skills. Candidate must be efficient, like organization & cleanliness & be a congenial team member. No agency's please.

No agency's please. Fax resume to (404) 724-9130.

SHAPEWORKS
Personalized weight loss with healthy results. Lose weight, reshape your body. RESULTS IN 7 DAYS! Free Shape Scan Analysis. Call (301) 681-6067. www.reshapeurbody.com

BODY / SOUL

ARE YOU WASTING MONEY ON VITAMINS?. Take an in home wiz quiz and find out. Call me, I'll tell you what I did. Kerry (866) 522-0832. www.kustomkerry.com

COACHING

GLBT CAREER COACHING Making a career leap? Ineffective at your current job? Coaching for career seekers / changers & workplace roadblocks. **FREE** Consultations. Brad Brenner, Ph.D. (202) 986-5941. www.district-consulting.com

SOCIAL GROUPS

MODEL RAILROAD CLUB FORMING for Gays & Lesbians. If interested, please call John (404) 524-2097.

IT'S OUT WE'RE PROUD

It is our turn to come out and we are not looking back. The all new 2005 Subaru Legacy GT Sedan is here and it will amaze you. Imagine the thrust of 250 horsepower, the versatility of Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive all in a package that screams luxury. The new Legacy is out and we are proud. Be bold. Be daring. Come out today and experience it for yourself.

SUBARU of Gwinnett/Atlanta

2920 Satellite Blvd. Duluth 678-475-3500

www.subaruofgwinnett.com